



SPORTS:
The Lady Lion softball squad won four games last week and has a surprise star in pitcher Britany Hargis...page 12A

THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595
VOLUME No. 58, Issue No. 20

AROUND CAMPUS:

Southern puts on a health fair for local second graders...page 6A



NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

Southern wows accreditation team

Positives far outweigh negatives

Evaluators cite Leon, mission, honors as reasons for success

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Three years and untold hours of work came to an end in a 20-minute review Wednesday morning. The relief was almost tangible as the chair of the seven-member North Central Association team delivered the verdict: a recommendation for another 10 years of accreditation.

Dr. Sheila Kaplan, president of Metropolitan State College of Denver, outlined the team's findings following its intense three-day visit to Missouri Southern.

Assisting Kaplan were: Dr. Hector Carrasco, a dean at the University of Southern Colorado; Dr. Julia Rosa Emslie, a professor at Eastern New Mexico University; Dr. Bobbie Irvin, vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Dr. Betty Jo Licata, a dean at Youngstown State University; Dr. Robert Reid,

vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Indiana; and Dr. Jack Robinson, assistant vice president for academic affairs at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Kaplan briefly listed seven of the College's strengths and four areas of concern. A detailed report will be sent to Southern in about five weeks, she said.

"On the whole, we were most impressed by this college," Kaplan said. "This institution is in great shape. The positives far outweigh the negatives."

The team had abundant praise for the self-study that formed the foundation of its review. The study was written by a committee co-chaired by Dr. Larry Martin, dean of the school of arts and sciences, and Dr. Betsy Griffin, head of the psychology department, and is the culmination of three years of work.

"This was a very well done self-study," Reid said. "It was comprehensive and honest. A number of things that came out of your study are already in progress."

According to Martin, as many as 65 people worked on the study in some capacity. The "honesty"

praised by the team was a strategy of the committee.

"You can afford to admit your faults when you know your strengths," Martin said.

Leon was pleased with the outcome of the review.

"We know what we do and we know we're a good college, but it's safe to say we were all a bit nervous," he said.

Of the four concerns the team listed, the first two deal with issues the College has already identified as needing improvement, Leon said.

He believes the gender and racial diversity issue and the need for better major field assessment are the most pressing concerns.

As for the program review process, he was uncertain what specific problems the team identified.

"This is not only a credit to Larry Martin, Betsy Griffin, and Erik Bitterbaum, but to all the faculty and staff of this college," Leon said.

"Everyone should feel proud that an external team evaluated us so highly."

The College will be up for North Central review again in the year 2007-2008. □

Sugar & Salt

The accreditation team praised Missouri Southern, but found some weaknesses

- HIGHS**
- International mission
 - Core curriculum assessment
 - Commitment of all to teaching College mission
 - Student services commitment
 - Community outreach
 - Honors program
 - President Julio Leon

- LOWS**
- Diversity
 - Not enough oversight in major field assessment
 - Strategic issues initiative weak
 - Revise program review process

J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

FACULTY FORUM

Instructors mull over issues with committee

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Missouri Southern faculty and staff had the opportunity to speak their minds to the North Central Association accreditation team on Tuesday. Approximately 30 people attended the open meeting.

It was an opportunity to air grievances or sing praises, but most comments fell into the latter category.

Melissa Locher, disabilities

coordinator, opened the dialogue by expressing appreciation for Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs. Several others chimed in, citing his availability, openness, and enthusiasm as qualities they appreciated.

Support for the international mission was equally strong. Faculty believe their own travel experiences, as well as those of the students, are impacting the classroom. In addition, travel is

TURN TO FACULTY, PAGE 2A

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Students answer group's questions

By GINNY DUMOND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

What Monday's North Central Association meeting with students lacked in attendance it made up for

in content.

Four members of the accreditation team held an open forum with students in the Billingsly Student Center. Senior theatre major Autumn Ross, senior mathematics major Jason Talley, and sophomore

international business majors Lily Talley and Vanessa Copeland were the only ones in attendance.

"We hear a lot about the focus of the [international] mission," Dr.

TURN TO STUDENTS, PAGE 10A

STUDENT LIFE BEAT

Two sisters live out similar fire ordeals

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

Reminiscent of the mythical phoenix, two Missouri Southern students have found a way to rise from the ashes.

Sandra Lovett, junior sociology major, and sister Victoria Young, sophomore elementary education major, both lost their homes to fire. The two fires happened almost two months apart, Lovett's on Jan. 28 and Young's on March 27.

The fire in Young's house at 2106 Pennsylvania is being blamed on a chemical used to clean swimming pools. The chemical was spilled on carpet inside the house. Young was vacuuming the spill when she noticed white smoke coming

TURN TO FIRE, PAGE 10A



TIM WILSON/The Chart

With her hands apparently full with rambunctious children, Sandra Lovett (standing), with daughter Jaimie (left) and nephew Kyle Young (center), certainly didn't need the two fires this year that ruined her home and her sister's home too.

GOCKEL SYMPOSIUM

Faculty reflect on African trips as series nears

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For many who travel to Africa, it's an experience they take on with some trepidation, but upon returning, it's a trip they'd gladly make again.

At least that's the general consensus among some Missouri Southern faculty who have spent time on the "neglected continent."

"It was wonderful," said Dr. Gwen Murdock, professor of psychology. "I would go back there in a second if I could."

Murdock spent eight months in Tanzania during her sabbatical last year researching antelope. She said she longs to go back.

Instead, Africa is coming to her and Southern.

The second annual Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium will devote itself this year to the continent. At 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday in the Webster Hall auditorium three speakers will tackle the issue of an entire continent. Admission is free. It is a precursor to next fall's "Africa Semester" at Southern.

"We'll get a little flavor of Africa," said Dr. Betsy Griffin, professor of psychology. "It's hard to imagine one semester being enough."

Griffin spent time in Senegal visiting her sister and brother-in-law. He was working as an anthropologist in the country and she spent three weeks touring there.

She said her fondest memories are of the people. "There's a lot of curiosity about them," she said. "Americans are reacted to differently than other white people. They are more favorable to Americans than the colonizers."

Dr. Sabine Cramer, assistant professor of foreign languages, recently returned from a trip to Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire with Richard Massa, director of the Institute of International Studies, and Dr. Chad Stebbins, assistant director of the Institute. She said she found the people intriguing as well.

"It was the kindness of the people and the reception they gave us as human beings and not different people," she said.

The trio's mission was to develop collaborative agreements with journalism programs in the two countries. Cramer said she made some connections with the continent in the process.

TURN TO SYMPOSIUM, PAGE 2A

VOLUNTEERING

College discusses mandating service requirements

Certain courses already give students credit for charity work

By JEFF WELLS
STAFF WRITER

In the future, more Missouri Southern courses may require students to participate in community service projects.

Requiring community service is a growing trend across the country for high schools and colleges.

According to Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, the issue of required service is just in its infancy at Southern.

"I think you will see more in the future," he said.

Bitterbaum said changes in the curriculum to require community service in a course would go through the same evaluation process as any other change.

"Our courses are constantly evolving anyway," he said.

Dr. Richard Miller, head of the social science department, has students in his Sociology of Aging course perform community service.

"Students go out and have visitation with an older person one hour a week and establish a social relationship," he said.

Other sociology students volunteer at the Lafayette House, Ozark Center, Area Agency on Aging,

Children's Miracle Network, and area hospitals. In addition, many sociology internships provide community social services.

"We tend to focus on meeting social needs, through either social work or agency work," Miller said.

Bitterbaum said some of the other courses requiring or performing community service can be found in the nursing, computer aided drafting, and education departments. Several departments have internships with community service groups.

Bitterbaum supports community service because of

his positive experience as a volunteer in college.

"It is a powerful way of learning," he said. "It addresses real human needs."

Bitterbaum said volunteering can fulfill obligations of public and community service to society.

"You receive something spiritual by helping others," he said.

Bitterbaum believes the community service experience can be a boost for self-esteem while providing valuable skills.

"The right way to learn self-worth is by observing one's ability to better the self-worth of others," he said.

Many people in the Southern community are volunteering

outside the classroom.

"There are a lot of silent heroes — students, faculty, and staff," Bitterbaum said. "I am very proud of what we are doing, but there is always the opportunity to do more." □

SECTION B



Volunteers — the building blocks of our society. The Chart postcards in this issue are yours to use and freely give of yourselves.

What's Inside

- The Chart field a team of volunteers
- Are residents served adequately?
- Southern professor recalls lifetime in the Peace Corps

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Index

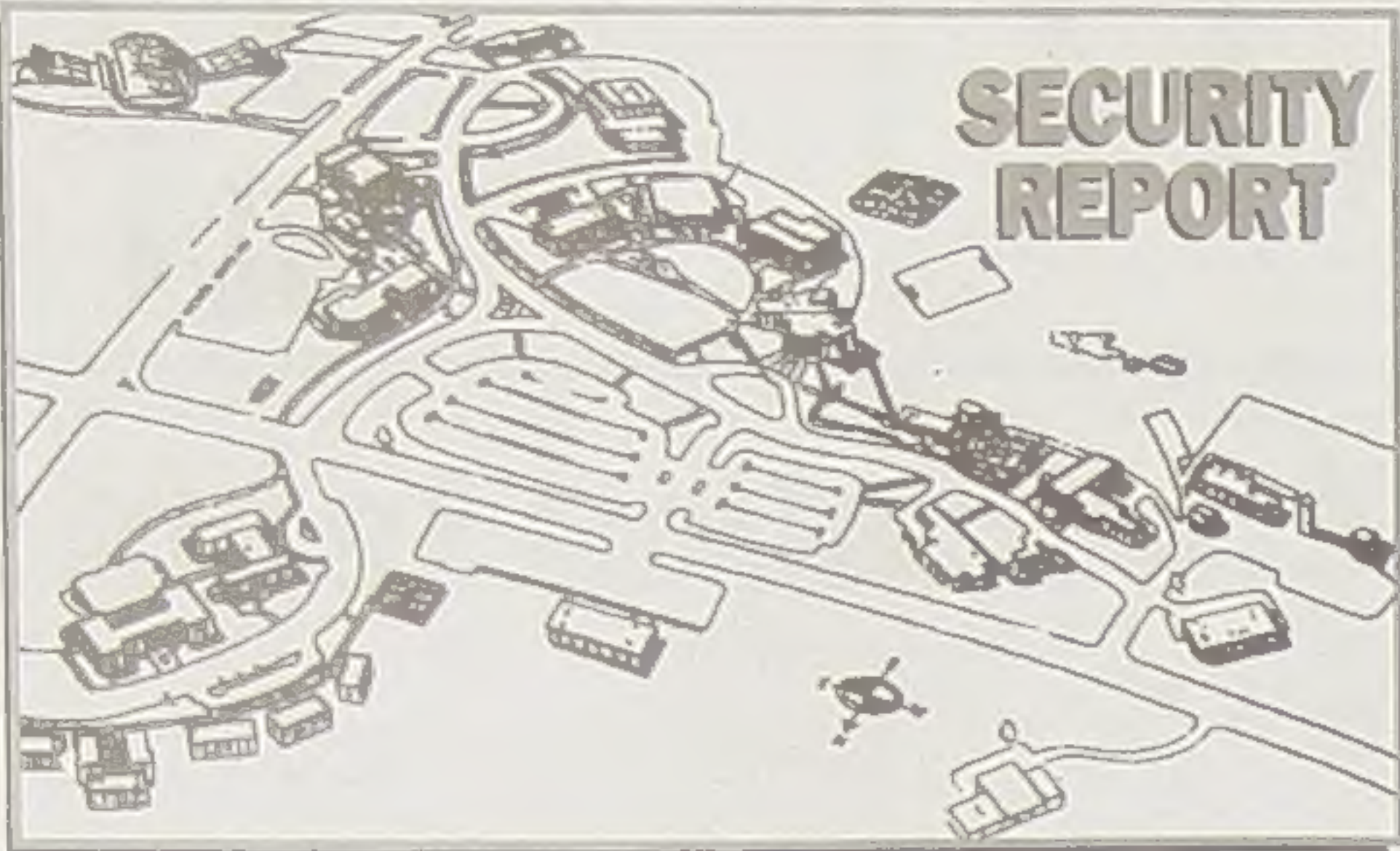
Southern News	Pages 2A & 10A
Second Frost	Page 3A
Public Forum	Page 4A
Automotive	Page 5A
Around Campus	Page 6A
Arts Etc.	Page 7A
City News	Page 8A
State News	Page 9A
Southern Faces	Page 11A
Sports	Page 12A

What's Inside



ARTS SHOWCASE:

Southern Theatre presents the fairy tale classic, "Beauty and the Beast" for a weeklong run at Taylor Auditorium...page 7A



No incidents were reported to security last week

All proceeds of all advertising go to *The Chart*, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

SYMPOSIUM: Mazrui to kick off symposium on Monday

From Page 1A

"I always like to explore places," she said. "I like to intensify relationships I have made, not necessarily make new ones. It's the quality, not the quantity."

Being a German citizen, Cramer said her experience in Africa was somewhat similar to her arrival in the United States.

"Since it was not my first experience with a new continent, whatever came up, I was open for," she said.

All three said they are looking forward to the two-night symposium, and they all believe this will just scratch the surface of what African culture is about.

"You can't scratch anything without being there," Cramer said. "You can render impressions. You can

have vicarious experiences by people talking on the symposium."

The key to the symposium is to give students and the community insight into this continent of so many resources and so little interest.

Cramer said the students will be served greatly by the symposium.

"It is extremely important to pique the interest of stu-

dents to learn other cultures," she said.

Monday night at the symposium, world-renowned African expert Ali Mazrui will speak.

He is best known for his documentary "The Africans."

Tuesday night's speakers will be Dr. Peter Schraeder and Dr. Richard Haass, who will analyze foreign policy concerns in Africa.

MISSOURI COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION

'Chart' wins state honors

For the second year in a row, *The Chart* has been named "Best in State" by the Missouri College Media Association.

The award was presented Saturday at the annual MCMA convention in St. Louis. *The Chart* also captured the Sweepstakes Award, presented to the newspaper compiling the most points in the contest.

"*The Chart* steamrolled the competition," said Dr. Roy Keller, adviser to the *Capaha Arrow* at Southeast Missouri State University.

Missouri Southern competed in Division 2, which also consisted of Southeast, Truman State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Missouri Western, Washington University, and Webster University. As the winner of the "Best Overall Newspaper" award in Division 2, *The Chart* competed against Saint Louis University (Division 1 winner), Culver-Stockton College (Division

3), and Longview Community College (Division 1) for its "Best in State" title.

First-place awards were won by: J.L. Griffin and Nick Parker, News Writing; Griffin and Rick Rogers, In-Depth News Reporting; Aaron Deslatta, Regular Column; Parker, Sports Column; Griffin, Feature Photography; Ryan Bronson, Information Graphics; Griffin, Page One Design; Ginny Dumond, Sports Page; Teresa Bland, Photo Page; Griffin and Rogers, Special Section; and *The Chart*, Best Overall Newspaper.

Second-place awards were won by: Dumond, Feature Writing; Tammy Spicer and Aileen Gronewold, In-Depth News Reporting; Stephanie Goad, Investigative Reporting; Deborah Solomon, Feature Photography; and Margo Strait, Advertising.

Third-place awards were won by: Griffin, Sports Column; Gronewold, News Photography; Solomon, Sports Photography; *The Chart*,

Editorial/Op-Ed Section; and Spicer and Gronewold, Special Section.

Honorable mentions went to: Griffin, Feature Writing; Parker, Sports Writing; Spicer, Regular Column; Genie Undernehr, Regular Column; Tim Wilson, Sports Photography; Andrea Wilkinson, Political/Editorial Cartoon; and Parker, Feature Page.

The Chart finished with 76 points to win the Sweepstakes Award. Four points were given for a first-place award, three for a second, two for a third, and one for an honorable mention. Saint Louis University and Longview Community College tied for second with 59 points.

In a new competition, Best On-Line Edition, *The Chart* received third place among the 11 schools entered.

Northwest and Southeast finished first and second, respectively. Michael Raska, associate editor, is *The Chart's* online editor.

FACULTY: Southern's teachers offer wish list to NCA team

From Page 1A

becoming part of the student culture and a prominent reason why many students choose to attend Southern.

Several expressed appreciation for the beauty of the campus and the care and attention given to

the facilities. One exception is in the area of computer maintenance.

Items the faculty might put on a "wish list" include a faculty lounge, more classrooms that are technology equipped, and systematic faculty development on the use of technology in the classroom.

Free advice from NCA

- Track & document impact of mission changes
- Establish a development office for fundraising
- Regularly publish updated faculty & staff handbooks

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Total	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5
Five	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5	4/5
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FACULTY TRAVEL

Schlink hits three European cities

By SUSIE FRISBIE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

A spring break trip to Italy, Germany, and Switzerland by a Missouri Southern biology instructor should directly benefit students studying genetics at the College.

Dr. Gerald Schlink, associate professor of biology, said his trip had two separate goals.

"My first purpose was to attend an international meeting, and the second was to develop contacts at different universities in Europe," he said.

The international meeting Schlink refers to was the Human Genome Organization, or HUGO. HUGO is now working on a DNA sequencing project.

Schlink, whose expertise is in genetics, was not the only one who believes the knowledge he gained on the trip was beneficial.

"Dr. Schlink's trip will have direct benefits to students in genetics," said Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department. "He'll be able to pass on what he's learned to his students."

Schlink admits that after the trip he realizes the United States may not be quite up to par with the European nations in the study of human genetics.

"Before I went to Europe, I thought the United States would be the premiere leaders in this area," he said. "I found out we're dragging our heels."

One reason for the United States' struggle to stay on top of the genetics field may have something to do with the difference in the styles of educations Americans and Europeans receive.

"The education systems are completely different," Schlink said. "Our education system

"Before I went to Europe, I thought the United States would be the premiere leaders in this area. I found out we're dragging our heels.
"

Dr. Gerald Schlink
associate professor
biology

stresses 'liberal arts,' but their education system stresses expertise in their field."

The second goal of Schlink's trip to Europe was also a success. He made several different contacts in cities such as Fribourg and Neuchatel in Switzerland, Wurzburg and Bayreuth in Germany, and Turin, Italy.

"I picked these towns because they were all less than about 100,000 population, and their student populations at the universities were under 10,000," he said. "They are more Southern's sister-type of schools."

Though both of Schlink's goals were completed, another aspect of his trip remains prominent in his mind.

"The most memorable thing was probably the food and the society," he said. "The society is so refreshingly unique."

Schlink plans to submit proposals to the Institute of International Studies involving new and future abilities of students communicating and studying abroad. □

TOSSING THE DISC



Taking a break from Monday's action against Northeastern State, senior second baseman Jennifer Jlmerson tosses a frisbee with teammates. Joplin enjoyed summer-like weather for much of the day.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

'Who's Who' to list 14 Southern Students

The 1998 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" will include 14 students from Missouri Southern. Selection is made based on academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success.

The students are Heidee Ellsworth, Maranatha Covert, Elissa Hunt, Kenny Dean, Timothy Hansen, Rebecca Hutchinson, Amber Irwin, Katherine Ray, Cynthia Cook, Robin McAlester, Kody Berlin, Shelly Hamilton, Eva Smothers, and Lori Raley. □

Gronewold recipient of society scholarship

Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society, recently awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to Aileen Gronewold, senior English and communications major at Missouri Southern.

The scholarship is named in honor of Elva Bell McLin, who served for many years on the national executive board. Selection for the award was based on grades, letters of recommendation, and an essay.

Gronewold plans to pursue graduate studies in English at Pittsburg State University in the fall. □

Film Society to show Swedish film 'Torment'

The award-winning Swedish film *Torment* will be the Missouri Southern Film Society's final program in its current film series.

The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall auditorium. Admission at the door is \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for senior citizens and students.

Produced in 1944, *Torment* was directed by veteran filmmaker Alf Sjöberg and was scripted by a young, then unknown, Ingmar Bergman. It was winner of the Grand Prize at the first post-war Cannes Festival, and Mai Zetterling, who played Bertha, became an international celebrity.

In *Torment* a cruel teacher, nicknamed Caligula, rules his classroom like a kingdom. He hounds a distraction a promising student named Jan-Erik. On his way home from school, Jan-Erik meets a lonely and unhappy store clerk, Bertha. When the two become very involved, Jan-Erik's work suffers and Caligula forces the girl to do his will by threatening to slunk Jan-Erik. But Caligula is too violent with Bertha and this leads to her tragic death. After the police arrest him, Caligula's sadistic qualities are revealed as he seeks some strange sort of forgiveness.

Southern's Institute of International Studies and the Missouri Arts Council provide financial assistance for this project. □

Southern to co-sponsor "Protecting our Children"

The division of continuing education at Missouri Southern and the Division of Family Services in Joplin are sponsoring a video conference called "Protecting Children On-line." The conference will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 23 in Matthews Hall auditorium. Registration begins at noon.

Access to the Internet by youth will be the focus of the video.

The showing is produced by the U.S. Department of Justice and Juvenile Justice Telecommunications Assistance Project of Eastern Kentucky University. The program is free to the public. □

MEN'S ATHLETICS

Evans accepts Division I coaching post

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

Stepping into the NCAA Division I football ranks, Missouri Southern defensive coordinator Kenny Evans has accepted an offer to coach at the University of North Texas.

The move to Denton, Texas, will include a switch to the offense, where Evans will serve as tight ends coach. He will also assume duties as the director of football operations.

After nine years at Southern, Evans said this was an opportunity he couldn't pass up.

"First of all, it's a Division I program," he said. "Also, if you coach college football in Texas, that will be of help down the road. Everybody knows Texas has the best football in the country."

"To advance in my career, this is a big step. I have aspirations of being a head coach someday, and this will help."

Evans said leaving the coaches and players at Southern will be the most difficult part.

"Some of these players I recruited and have gotten to know over the past few years," he said. "I'll miss the guys here in the office, too. Bill [Cooke], Dan [Scheible], they've all been real helpful. Coach Scheible has even given me sort of a mini-clinic on offense. And Coach [Greg] Gregory has given me some ideas to take with me to the new school."

"Really in general, I'll just miss the people in southwest Missouri. My wife and I have made some lifelong friends here. I'm excited about the job, but sad because of the people I'm leaving behind."

Evans will be reunited with his friend, Darryl Dickey, at North Texas. Dickey was hired as head coach last month.

As a graduate assistant at the University of Oklahoma in the early 1980s, Evans coached against Dickey, who was quarterback at Kansas State.

"He's a great guy and was a great player," Evans said. "He'll have the chance to move up in the coaching world really fast. And hopefully I'll get to tag along for the ride."

Evans will fulfill his obligations at Southern for the semester before moving on to Denton. □

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Southern, Pittsburg unite for trip

By KIKI COFFMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Mary Short's first journey to the Georgia barrier islands began on a Missouri Southern trip studying biomes. Biomes are the study of ecosystems like marshes and savannas. And now Short is happy because she is offering Southern students a chance to participate in her annual return visit and research on the Georgia islands.

Now an adjunct instructor at Pittsburg State University, Short was a student at Southern when she and 20 other classmates spent a week of study with a former Southern biology instructor on the island of Ossabaw. It was a trip that changed her life.

"After the first trip, several of us wanted to go back," Short said. "We had learned so much and experienced so much in that short time that we felt the need to return."

A few of the students did return, and

now Short takes her students to the barrier islands.

"But it isn't just for PSU students; we've had students come on the trip from all over," she said. "Any student is welcome to participate no matter what field they're interested in. We've had musicians, writers, journalists, and people just interested in taking a trip go. It's exciting to have a fresh group of minds working together to get things accomplished."

"Accomplished" because the barrier island adventure involves more than a few days basking in the sun. There is restricted access to the various islands. The two-week trip unites the visiting students with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR).

"I had become involved in 1989 with Habitat Evaluation for [GDNR] when we studied the effect of the overpopulation of European wild boars on Ossabaw Island," Short said.

"The boars had a huge effect on the flora and fauna at that time. We try to

give back to the [GDNR] because we get to use the area.

"The students learn about birds, frogs, fish, the different calls that they make. We study plants on the island and we also go marsh mucking," she said.

This year, Sapelo Island in Georgia is the destination for Short's trip. The journey runs from May 11 to June 7, including two nights in Savannah, Ga., and nine days on the island.

The trip costs \$430, which includes all meals, hotels, and travel, but it doesn't include food expenses on the trip down and on the return journey.

"We eat well when we're down there, sometimes spaghetti and stuff like that, but we are usually pretty well fed," Short said.

Short believes the experience gained from the trip she offers is hard to dismiss.

"You can study biology and culture in books. But until you see it, hear it, feel it, and touch it, you haven't learned anything." □

STATE GOVERNMENT

Missouri treasurer outlines new legislation

Holden's visit pushes MOSTARS plan

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Legislation under consideration by state lawmakers could make it easier

for students to afford a college education. State Treasurer Bob Holden spoke on campus April 3 to outline the plan.



Holden

Legislation sponsored by Rep. Tim Harlan (D-Columbia) and Sen. Ted House (D-St. Charles) would allow parents or anyone to contribute \$8,000 per year per child to a fund for college education.

Contributions and interest would be exempt from state income taxes, but only interest would be exempt from federal taxes.

If the legislation passes, MOSTARS, the Missouri Student Assistance Resource Services, will market the program, and a five-member governing board will administer it.

According to Paul Wagner, research associate for the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, IRS regulations state that persons cannot direct where the money is invested. Contributions for this program can be made only to the investment fund established by the board.

"I want this to be set up so people of modest means can start very early in life to pay for their children's education," Holden said.

According to Holden, Missouri ranks below the national average of students who go on to higher education.

"More and more, Missouri's and the nation's future will depend on a skilled labor force," he said. "I share the governor's goal of making the 13th and 14th year of education common."

Funds accumulated in the program could be used toward room and board, books, and living expenses in addition to tuition at any institution of higher education. Funds withdrawn for any non-education use would be subject to taxes and penalty.

The program requires the funds to be used within 10 years of high school graduation, Holden said. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Camahan's baseball economics

Generically speaking, everything is relative to baseball.

Therefore, the inevitable drama of Missouri's foreseeable economic, thus social and political, future is currently being played out not in the halls of the State Capitol but in the National League East.

Much like present Missouri, the Florida Marlins heading into the 1997 season found themselves sitting in relative financial security. Big bucks were spent on acquiring free agents, improving the state of the team and skyrocketing the organization's payroll. The Marlins, virtually overnight, became a powerhouse in the N.L. The fruition of their newfound success was evident in capturing the World Series. But soon thereafter, the produce began to spoil.

The impact of Florida's heavy spending last season combined with an uncertain ownership situation forced a franchise dismantling unprecedented in Major League history.

Florida's bullpen has been virtually swept clean. Relief pitcher Robb Nen and his massive contract were sent to San Francisco. Setup man Dennis Cook was shipped to the Mets. Moises Alou, the team's top run producer last season, has been traded to Houston.

The casualties are numerous: Kevin Brown, Deván White, Jeff Conine — all victims of a franchise which found itself on shaky financial footing. Fearful for the team's future, manager Jim Leyland threatened to exercise his escape clause and leave the team if the crumbling was allowed to continue. But the ownership called his bluff, and now Leyland is sitting at the helm of a team that is merely a shell of its former self, thoroughly gutted of many of the pieces that made it a champion.

Reminiscent of the '97 Marlins, Missouri has found itself in an economic comfort zone in recent years, thanks in part to tax revenue generated from gaming facilities and an increased standard of living. For the last three years, Missouri has collected enough income tax money to trigger the Hancock Amendment, which requires income tax refunds when the state's total revenue exceeds a formula based on residents' earnings.

This year's refund for 1995 and 1996 was the first time the amendment has been used since adopted in 1980.

In November 1997, 2.8 million Missourians were employed, an increase of more than 317,000 jobs since January 1993.

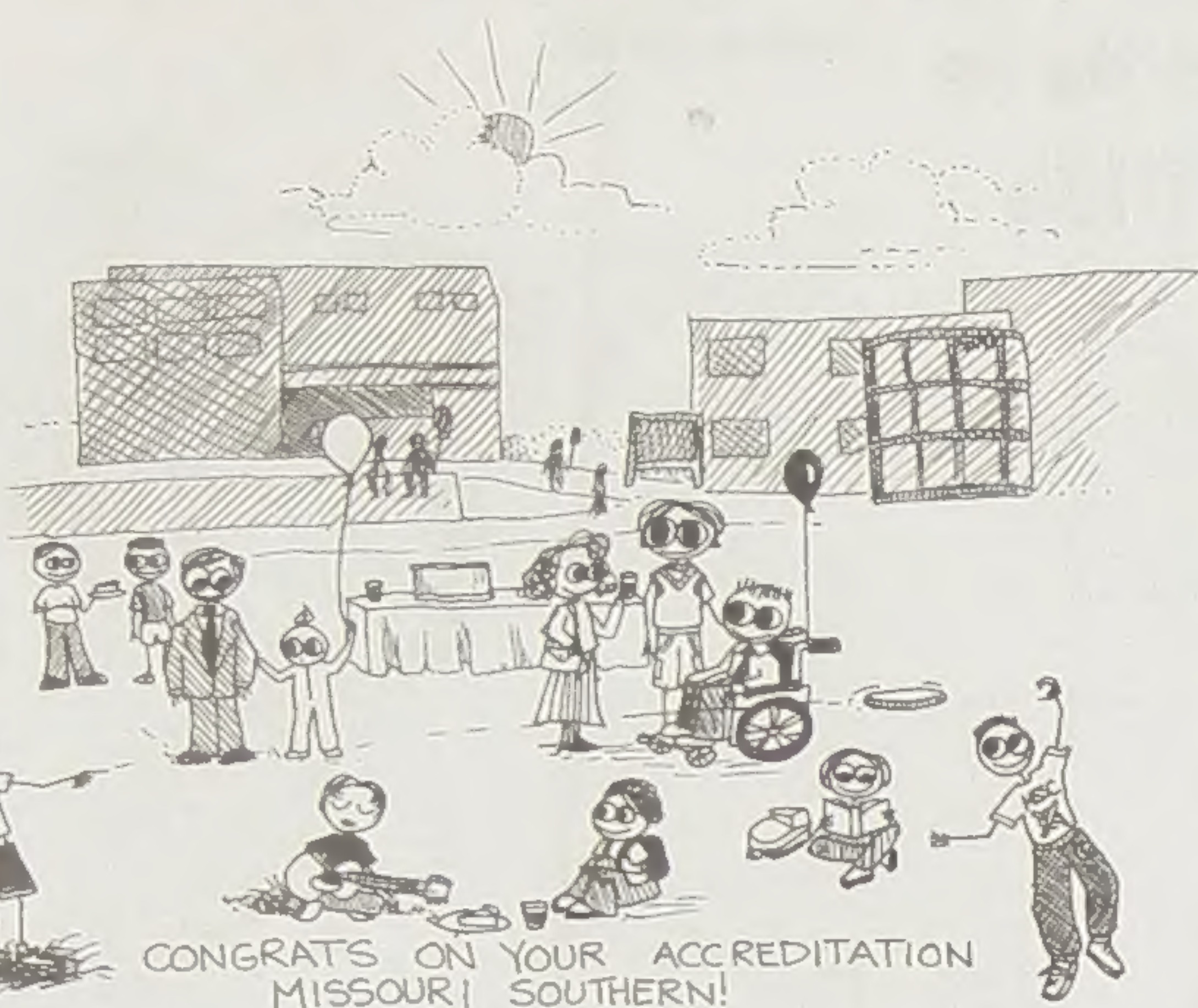
Last year, 176 companies expanded their operations in Missouri, and 49 companies opened new facilities in the state, boosting the money invested in Missouri facilities to \$1.6 billion in 1997.

Missouri seems primed to bring home a championship.

But Missouri hasn't been saving its pennies. Much like the Marlins, who were in tight competition with the Braves, Missouri has been struggling with bordering states to increase the commercial stability needed to attract the big businesses necessary for sustaining its economic climb.

Gov. Mel Carnahan has proposed in his 1999 fiscal budget a \$511.9 million increase in operating budget funding, \$376.1 million of which is a response to growing inmate populations and increasing Medicaid caseloads.

While the need for new prisons if the old ones are eyesores can hardly be denied, the attitude of the executive



OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Southern: Lookin' good!

This week Missouri Southern broadened its reputation as an outstanding institution of higher education. Seven representatives from colleges and universities in Colorado, New Mexico, Arkansas, Ohio, Indiana, and Oklahoma spent three days putting our campus under the microscope. Naturally, they went home impressed.

Among all the facets of this campus deserving of recognition, they had the most to say about three: our international mission, the committee that wrote the self study, and our president, Dr. Julio Leon. We agree with their assessment that these are among the best strengths of Missouri Southern.

Legislators may debate the value of our international emphasis, but as students, we know that our futures are increasingly tied to world events rather than local or even national events.

The quality of any institution depends on the people associated with it. No wonder the team was impressed by the work done by the committee that wrote the self-study. These are key people in our College, and they bring care and dili-

gence to all they do. Although many people contributed hours and hours of work, the bulk of the responsibility fell on the steering committee.

Finally, the team cited Dr. Leon as one of the outstanding strengths of this College, and we couldn't agree more. His vision, his tenacity, and his leadership are largely responsible for the steady growth and improvement we have seen for several years. We students reap the rewards of his efforts every day.

As much as we deserve to feel proud after this week's victory, we can't spend too much time patting ourselves on the back. We have too much to do. We have a few warts to tend to.

The North Central team drew attention to our lack of ethnic and gender diversity on campus, and this is an area we, too, would like to see improved. When the next team comes in 2007, the population of our campus needs to be dramatically more diverse.

The long process of self-evaluation has been good for this campus. Among other things, it reminds us that excellence may be hard to achieve, but it is even harder to maintain. □

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mail.mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

Tax codes a pain, even for congressman

Americans fear the IRS — and with good reason. It's an agency that wields incredible power. Its actions can wipe out a person's livelihood, destroy a business, and take a family's home without traditional due process. It doesn't take long in talking to friends and neighbors before you can hear firsthand accounts of IRS abuse. No American should fear the government, but with the IRS there is often reason to do so.

The Declaration of Independence is 1,300 words long, the Old and New Testaments 773,000; the tax code has 5.5 million words.

Although IRS abuse and inefficiency are ominous threats to the average American, they are not the source of America's tax problems. The heart of IRS abuse lies in the existing tax code. At 3,458 pages it's impossible for the average taxpayer to know, understand, and accurately apply its provisions. Even tax "experts" cannot do so reliably. You see, it's not just 3,500 pages of law to understand — it's 3,500 pages plus literally thousands of additional pages of supplementing tax regulations and interpretations, court cases, and opinions. It grows every day. It is so difficult to under-

stand that an entire industry of accountants and lawyers spend every working hour on it. In fact, some estimates put the cost of compliance at over \$225 billion per year. That's \$225 billion of unproductive effort. Think of what that could do for the economy if channeled into other areas.

Enforcing the tax code is such an impossible task that it's really not surprising that the IRS is often accused of inconsistent enforcement and bureaucratic inefficiency. Reforming the IRS may solve some of its problems; but until the code itself is replaced with a simple, fair alternative there is little hope of getting the "little guy" out from under the IRS's guns.

I'm cosponsoring the Tax Code Termination Act (HR 3097) which sunsets the federal tax codes as of Dec. 31, 2001. We need to debate real tax reform — not just patches to the existing system. The tax code is hopelessly broken and abolishing it is the necessary first step to debating, designing, and adopting a simple, fair replacement tax system. Under the Tax Code Termination Act, today's oppressive tax code would survive for only four more

years, at which time it would expire and be replaced on Jan. 1, 2002, with a new tax code that will be determined by Congress, the president, and the American people.

Admittedly, scrapping the existing tax code and replacing it with a better system is not a simple task. However, four years is plenty of time for the nation to collectively decide what the new tax system should look like. Having a date-certain to end the current tax code will force the issue to the top of the national agenda, where it will remain until Congress and the president finish writing the new tax law.

Between now and 2002 we need to continue to eliminate unfair parts of the current code. The "marriage penalty," death taxes, and taxes on the sales of property and stocks not indexed to inflation are wrong. We should knock a few of them off while we debate the kind of fairer, simpler tax structure that we want to take into the 21st century.

Rep. Roy Blunt
R-Missouri

IN PERSPECTIVE

How to play music badly, and love it!

I can play Beethoven's most difficult piano sonatas perfectly. Once I have done some warmup exercises, flexed my fingers a few times, and taken a deep breath, I maneuver the silver disk into the player, hit the button with a masterful touch, and flows forth the miraculous soul in sound. There it is, every time, any time I want it — the virtuoso performing in my living room.

A century ago comparatively few had ever heard a performance so fine on an instrument so grand. Even those who had heard the great virtuosos perform might reasonably count on hearing the Pathétique sonata a handful of times during their lives. In reading 19th-century letters and memoirs, I am often struck by the passion with which writers record their response to a concert or opera. Springing always from a living hand or lip, music involved a communal moment, and the moment was fleeting. One ordinarily never heard just the same music again, for performances vary — a memory, headache, or heartache alters the circumstances or the listener. Music was scarce and thereby precious. But in my lordly ease can summon a great pianist to my presence on a whim, and I can listen to the Pathétique played flawlessly till I am sick of it.

Two things strike me about my playing Beethoven this way. First, and less central to my purpose, I envy the innocent ear of a century ago. It was not inundated day and night as is mine with strains of music inexhaustible. My ear is cloyed with hearing. I hear so much music that I seldom listen to it really. A dark, expensive concert hall will make me listen fairly well, but even then I am so used to music good and bad that I don't always notice what is played. In my car, in the elevator, on hold, in the background in films and on television, on the beach, in the park, the mall, the dentist's office, the baseball stadium — music everywhere. We so surround ourselves with music that we risk dulling our sensibilities altogether. Music forced upon me is not music but noise. Music used to sell me soap, beer, or politics is an intrusion, an insidious play upon my feelings, so I learn to steel myself against it.

The second thing that strikes me is how much I enjoy playing Beethoven badly. You see, two years ago I took an imprudent plunge and bought a piano. I had never played before. Old dogs and new tricks being what they are, I figured my initial enthusiasm would wane in the face of the pain of my beginner's fumbling, my proven lack of musical talent (clarinet, guitar), and the busyness of my days. But I bought it anyway.

How surprised I am that I have played all but 10 or 15 days in those two years. Don't get me wrong, however. First, I am no paragon of self-discipline. I play because it's fun. Second, I am no good at it. Most anyone else spending the hours and energy I have would have progressed farther. But what a joy it has been, because now, after much labor, many clunkers, I can play Beethoven badly.

For when I play, I hear the music as I seldom manage otherwise. I understand its particularity, its structure, its surprises. I participate in its making, recreating it in my meager way along with Beethoven. Most of all, and hardest to word, in making the music with finger and mind, ear and time, I feel it along the heart, ceasing to regard it as a thing apart. The music engrosses me, requiring as it does my whole attention, so that for a time only the music matters, and I am lost in it. □



Dr. Lanny Ackiss
Honors program director

THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)

ACP National Pacemaker (1997)

ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997)

MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97, 1997-98)

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TURN TO BASEBALL, PAGE 10A

RACING ENGINES

Firing leads to lucrative motor rebuilding job

DeMasters learns business along the way

By MARILYN TAFT
STAFF WRITER

Getting laid off his job after 26 years in service was the best thing to happen to Johnny DeMasters, entrepreneur.

"It really hurt me — staying there 26 years, is what it amounts to — they done me a favor," DeMasters said.

He devoted himself to his love of engine rebuilding after the layoff. DeMasters turned his pastime into a successful business. DeMasters works approximately 80 plus hours per week and loves every minute of it. He has rebuilt racing engines as a business for about five years.

"If I'd done this [business] from the word go, I'd be retired by now," DeMasters said.

Engine rebuilding isn't new to the DeMasters family. His father

rebuilt racing engines and raced stock cars as a pastime. The younger DeMasters also raced his modified stock car until a racing injury forced him to quit racing, like his father. His son is now racing his car.

DeMasters worked and learned from his father as well as a few other mentors, one of whom was Clyde Massey. DeMasters worked for Massey several years while still living with his mother and father.

"Clyde taught me a lot and then I kept on learning as time goes on," DeMasters said.

When Massey became an elderly man, he summoned DeMasters to his house one day and offered him his rebuilding equipment at a reasonable price and let DeMasters make small payments.

"He [Massey] had let me go with- out explanation, so he said 'I done

you wrong and I want to make it up to you,'" DeMasters said.

Purchasing Massey's equipment was a break for DeMasters, because the equipment needed to rebuild an engine is quite costly. While enjoying his new business, DeMasters said it hasn't been easy. He learned the hard way that clients need to pay in full upon delivery of their engines.

"You get guys that you'll build a motor for and then they don't pay you," DeMasters said.

He said he used to let clients have their engines before they paid, but not anymore. DeMasters trusted people at first, but after "getting burned" half a dozen times, he doesn't trust anyone.

The typical cost for a rebuilt racing engine ranges from \$10,000 to \$35,000. Clients bring DeMasters engines and parts, and he rebuilds it. Sometimes he has to order new parts. The \$35,000 engine had a crankshaft alone that cost \$10,000.



Johnny DeMasters, works in his shop in Joplin. DeMasters began building engines after losing a previous job.
SUSIE FRISBIE
The Chart

When the engines are finished, DeMasters crats and ships them by bus. Some clients pick up the engines. The engines are not tested until they are placed into the racing car. His most typical rebuilds are

355s, 377s, and 406s. DeMasters has never advertised his racing engine rebuilding, but clients come from across the country. He said it's all word of mouth.

"I've only had about two engines

brought back to me in my entire life," DeMasters said.

DeMasters is working out of his shop in Joplin, but is going to move to a new 40- by 100-square-foot shop in Saginaw. □

AUTO RECYCLERS

Salvage yards provide alternative source for car parts, equipment

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

There is a way to save money, save time, save energy, and save natural resources while prolonging the life of your automobile.

Besides providing an inexpensive alternative for buying auto parts, salvage yards are helping to extend the permanence of our natural resources.

It has long been known that buying parts from an auto recycler could save money, about 50 percent in most cases, but these businesses have more to offer than that. According to Greg Freeman, owner of Freeman Auto Salvage, a warranty is available with every part he sells.

"There is an added charge for it," Freeman said. "But our guarantee, on most parts, is as good as those for new parts, and, in some cases, even better."

Freeman, who has been in businesses for 20 years, explained that, for a fee, one of his customers could pur-

chase a used windshield with an unconditional lifetime guarantee.

If it gets broken for any reason, even if you, yourself, break it out with a baseball bat, we will replace it free," he said. "You can't get a warranty like that on a new windshield."

Quality is another advantage that goes along with the price of buying used parts. Freeman gives the example of bike rotors.

Many of the replacement rotors on the market are manufactured in Mexico using inferior steel," he said. "They may be cheaper, but they won't last as long as original manufacturer's parts. When you buy from an auto recycler, you get original manufacturer's rotors that will last, probably as long as you own the car."

Then there's availability," Freeman said. "Most of our business, anymore, is wholesale body parts to body shops."

If you need a front clip and you have to order it from

the dealer, then you're going to have to wait for it to be shipped. While we've got it here in stock, this saves time, too, because you can get the whole clip instead of several separate pieces to assemble."

When a car arrives at a salvage yard, it is taken into a shop and entirely dismantled. The fluids — oil, gasoline, brake fluid, etc. — are drained and stored in 300-gallon tanks, the parts cataloged and shelved, and the remainder of the vehicle is crushed and hauled away. The parts, in this way, are selected for re-use, or recycling.

Automotive recyclers are always open for new ways to recycle more of the vehicle parts they get in.

"For our members, that is their sole business," said Veronica Dove, public relations marketing manager for the International Automotive Recyclers Association. "They want to get as much business as they can. So any kind of vehicle they can get their hands on, they're going to recycle it."

The International Automotive Recyclers Association

estimates about one million cars are recycled every year. Whenever possible, parts that can be used without altering their state are sold as used parts, with metals, glass, and plastic being melted down and remanufactured. Some parts, such as water pumps, engines, carburetors, oil pumps, etc., especially core trade-ins from customers buying parts, are rebuilt without being melted down and distributed to auto-parts stores to be sold as remanufactured parts.

The IARA is trying to get legislation defining when automobiles may be recycled.

"Our industry is trying to set up specific standards as to how to recycle automobiles and when they can be considered salvageable," Dove said. "Something that will be a national standard, instead of individually, state by state, in order to reduce the amount of problems we have in what we're working on. As it stands, some of these vehicles are being recycled incorrectly, or fluids are being spilled, or a host of other problems are arising." □



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AROUND CAMPUS

MONTH OF CARING

Organizations volunteer to win contest

Campus groups
give time to charity

By MICHAEL RASKA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

By participating in volunteer projects and assisting United Way agencies throughout the Joplin area, Missouri Southern students can help the community during the Month of Caring.

"Month of Caring is a contest between all the organizations on the campus to see what organization can work the most volunteer hours, percentage wise, by how many people are in the organization," said Sandy Fisk, senior psychology major and Student Senate

president. "The program started on April 1 and will go on until April 28."

The idea for Month of Caring evolved from the Dare to Care program, a volunteer program launched by the Student Senate last year. The Dare to Care program encourages Southern students to volunteer their time with United Way agencies in order to get career-related experience, Fisk said.

"We wanted to start something that would promote school spirit and some interaction between the organizations at the campus," she said.

"Missouri Southern didn't have anything doing volunteer work in the community, so we thought organizing one month of volunteer

projects would make Southern more visible in the community."

The Month of Caring is a partnership between several different groups including the Student Senate, Campus Activities Board, career services, student organizations, and the United Way of Joplin, said Jennifer Yazell, director of career services.

Some of the United Way projects where students may help include working in the Community Clinic, helping to prepare food for the Salvation Army, and helping camp rangers clean up the Childress Scout Reservation.

Other projects they are participating in include helping children with cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and other developmental disabilities; and assisting blind and

visually impaired persons.

"It is a great opportunity for Missouri Southern students to show some school pride as well as helping others in the community," Yazell said. "It's important for the career skills that can be gained from volunteering, but I think one of the things that can make people feel good about themselves is helping others."

The Campus Activities Board has donated cash prizes for the top three winners of the Month of Caring.

The first-place organization will receive \$500, second place \$300, and the top individual will receive \$200.

The winners will be announced during the Spring Fling picnic at the main lawn in front of the

Billingsly Student Center on May 1, according to Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities.

"CAB has a responsibility of providing programs of educational and entertainment nature for the students, and when the Student Senate came to us about this and said that they would like to help with Spring Fling, the CAB thought to give the students money for the Month of Caring," Carlisle said.

"It's very exciting to be a part of something that encourages students to volunteer for people who need help and do something to show pride in their college," Yazell said. "I am thrilled to see how it turns out."

For more information about the program, students may contact career services at 625-9343. □

CAMPUS FEATURE

'Master of impermanent art' speaks of life's voyages

Publications coordinator has 'eclectic' interests

By JEFF BILLINGTON
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Much like the Hunchback of Notre Dame, Michael Hailey, publications coordinator, works in an area up and away from the rest of the world.

His is the only office located on the third floor of Billingsly Student Center.

"Up and away from heated masses," he said.

Hailey said he has been working at Southern for 12 years.

"I do the advertising for the College," he said. "I do newspaper ads. I do schedule book covers. I do viewbooks. I'm the master of impermanent art."

He said he became interested in this type of work when he was still a student.

"I started doing this when I was in college here," Hailey said. "In fact, that's the reason I'm doing what I'm doing. Since 1968 I've been in one form of advertising or another."

He said he can describe himself in a single sentence.

"Spiritual, eclectic, pragmatic, liberal with a strong focus on family and learning," Hailey said.

He jokingly said even though many people do not know who he is, his name or at least his initials are seen around town.

"If you go down in Memorial Hall you see it as M.H.," Hailey said. "Right on the seats it has M.H."

He said even though he still lives in Joplin, where he was born, he has been all across the United States and even to Argentina.

"I've done a Jack Kerouac thing."

California driving an old 60 Thunderbird going down Route 66 with \$30 in my pocket, me and a buddy," Hailey said. "I can remember us sitting



out by the roadside drinking wine and eating pork and beans out of a can. That was a good trip; that was when I was going here and back during the days of the Haight Asbury."

"We went out in California south on Route 66. Then we went north up to the San Francisco bay area for a while, then out to the San Joaquin Valley and worked at a huge cannery, and it was a good thing, too."



"We were broke. We were eating the food right out of the can. I think I got five promotions when I was out there. I think it was because I could speak English."

Hailey said he thinks it is important for people to experience life during their youth.

"A person needs to live when they're young," he said. "I

had a lot of fun back then."

Hailey said he has been married three times, and his marriage to third wife Glenda seems to be working out.

"She's staying, so far," he said.

Hailey is known around campus and elsewhere to have somewhat eccentric tastes. He collects everything from Star Trek memorabilia to CDs of Buddhist chants, Argentinean folk music, and big band music from World War II.

Hailey said as far as spiritually, he is eclectic.

"I take a little bit here, a little there," he said.

Hailey has also had past-life regressions and an out-of-body experience.

Even his interests in reading materials is eclectic.

"If I had to be stranded on a desert island I'd like to have three to work with," he said. "The Gospels of Thomas, Dhammapadam, Dala Te Ching, then after that Harpo Speaks."

Hailey said when he gets interested in something it becomes a passion.

"I'm eclectic at everything I do," he said. "My current passion is genealogy." □

DENTAL HYGIENE



Jerrold Swearingen was one of 500 second graders to take part in Missouri Southern's second annual Health Fair. The dental hygiene program offered free dental screenings.

College conducts health fair

Second graders learn about proper tooth care

By BRIN CAVAN
STAFF WRITER

With the tooth fairy, cavity bug, and a dental devil in attendance, more than 500 second graders from 13 Joplin elementary schools were treated to a health fair April 3 at Missouri Southern.

Tia Strait, assistant professor of dental hygiene, organized the second annual event. Its primary purpose was to give the students a dental screening.

Seven area dentists and two orthodontists, assisted by junior dental hygiene students, volunteered to check the students.

"It's really a good community service," Strait said. "It's a team effort. Everyone was instrumental in making this a success."

The fair included a program by Southern's nursing students on bicycle safety and an ambulance tour and safety tips from Joplin Emergency Medical Services.

Senior dental hygiene students presented a puppet show and a program on nutrition and the dangers of smokeless tobacco.

Strait said in addition to the community dentists and Southern's dental and nursing students, the project is coordinated with the Joplin Health Department, Southern's faculty, and the Joplin R-8 School District.

If dental problems are found, student will be referred to their private dentists or to the Joplin Health Department.

Students who have no decay on their six-year molars will be allowed to return on April 30 for

an application of an oral sealant.

While the junior dental hygiene students gained experience assisting the dentists with the initial screening, the seniors will be the ones who apply the sealant upon the second-graders' return.

"I always tell the kids it's like a raincoat," Strait said.

"You paint this plastic coating on the top of the tooth, and it protects them to keep the cavity bugs from causing cavities."

The second graders enjoyed the programs as they made the rounds of the activities provided.

"It's good for them," said Chrissy Nunneley, senior dental hygiene major, "because many don't have the chance to go to the dentist or get the opportunity to see a program like this."

The favorite puppet of Brennan Strickland and Courtney Williams, Royal Heights Elementary students, was the dental devil who told them: "Don't brush your teeth; you don't have to listen to them; eat all the candy you want."

"It was funny," Strickland said. "If we listen to him, when we grow up we won't have any teeth."

Williams also learned to "wear a [bicycle] helmet so you don't get brain damage."

The use of prevention programs like this one has become more popular in the medical community.

"Every area is working toward prevention," said Doreen West, senior nursing major. "It's the trend of the 90s or the new millennium. It's a lot cheaper to prevent (to have health fairs and do these kind of promotions to increase awareness) than it is to treat them after the fact." □



Ali A. Mazrui will give the opening address at the second annual Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium at 7:30 p.m. April 13 in Webster Hall auditorium.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Jeff Billington at 625-9311.

Today 10	Saturday 11	Sunday 12	Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16
GOOD FRIDAY Track at University of Oklahoma Softball at Missouri Western 1 p.m.— Baseball at PSU	1 p.m.— Baseball at PSU	EASTER SUNDAY	Pre-enrollment for 30+ hours 7 p.m.— Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building 7:30 p.m.— The second annual Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium, "Africa: The Neglected Continent," Webster Hall auditorium	8:30 a.m.— Respiratory therapy test, BSC, Room 313 9 a.m.— Morning Mass, BSC, Room 306 12:20 p.m.— College Republicans BSC, Room 306 7:30 p.m.— Gockel Symposium: Dr. Peter Shraeder and Dr. Richard Haass, Webster Hall auditorium	1 p.m.— Baseball vs. Washburn 6 p.m.— Phi Eta Sigma banquet, BSC, third floor 9 p.m.— Wesley Foundation Midweek Worship	Pre-enrollment for anyone under 30 hours 11 a.m.— Kolonia Lunch, basement of Steggs Hall 12:20 p.m.— Model UN, Webster Hall, Room 223 12:20 p.m.— NBS, Webster Hall, MSTV Studio 6:30 p.m.— Fellowship of Christian Athletes, BSC, 2nd floor lounge

Performance appeals to young audience

Classic fairy tale to entertain hoards of school children

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Southern Theatre is preparing for the invasion of the little people. Next week will bring a steady stream of yellow school buses full of eager children for the theatre production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Two productions daily, Monday through Friday, are reserved for school groups. Additional performances at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19, are open to the public.

"We're expecting about 2,000 kids each day for the school performances," said Kate Walters, senior communications major and director of the production. "It's actually a bigger audience than a main show would get."

Southern Theatre's children's plays are important not only for the cultural experience they offer area children, but for the benefit of the theatre students as well.

"That's how our department scholarships are funded," Walters explained.

In spite of the exhausting schedule of performing 12 shows in

seven days, Walters said her cast and crew enjoy the children's plays.

"We have a lot of fun with it," she said. "We take it seriously, but we try to make it fun for the staff as well as the kids."

The cast has a slight uneasiness about the play because the script might not fit the audience's expectations.

"This is not the Walt Disney version," Walters said. "There's no dancing tea cups."

"It is based on the original fairy tale from the 18th century about a merchant who loses his fortune on the seas, gets lost in a forest, and meets the Beast."

The Beast gives him jewels and treasure, but the merchant steals the Beast's rose to give to his daughter.

As in the Disney version, the Beast makes the man give his daughter in exchange for his own life, and Beauty and the Beast fall in love.

In spite of basic plot similarities, some of the memorable Disney characters are missing.

Walters said information went out to all the schools regarding differences between this play and the Disney movie of the same name so the children would be prepared.

Tegan Whited, a senior English major who plays the evil sister, doesn't expect it to be a problem.



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Rhea Brown and David Hale, junior theatre majors, play the roles of Beauty and the Beast in next week's production. The cast and crew will perform 12 shows in seven days to several thousand school children.

"I think the kids will like it," she said. "It has a lot of physical comedy in it."

One of the delights of children's theatre is the way the children participate in the play, Walters said.

"In children's shows we try to break that fourth wall, that imaginary boundary between the actors and the audience," she said. "One

of the actors runs out into the audience and asks the kids questions."

David Hale, a junior theatre major who plays the Beast, predicted, "It's gonna get hairy." □

MSIPC

Host families share thrill of competition

By HEATHER OWENS
STAFF WRITER

Host families play a major role in the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition, providing competitors with a quality and friendly environment.

Vivian Leon, director, said choosing a host family is an important issue.

"It takes a lot of consideration. We look for people who are very giving with their time and attention," she said.

"We are careful to make sure that the environment is safe and that there will be quiet time to practice. We want them to have the support of a family and to be well taken care of."



Countdown to competition

- March 6—Honors Audition
- March 13—PBS Documentary
- April 10—Host Families
- April 17—A Closer Look, Missouri Southern International Piano Competition

their guest, junior division winner Jian Liu. "We felt comfortable with each other immediately," Ann Cope said.

Liu came from China with his mother and interpreter and spoke almost no English, but he soon learned, she said.

"It's amazing how quickly

Leon says the families volunteer because they want to help. They provide a quality environment full of the affection and integrity desired by the pianist. One host family, Mike and Ann Cope, said they thoroughly enjoyed the experiences shared with



Special to The Chart

Jian Liu, 1996 MSIPC junior division winner from China, displays his medal with his host family, Mike and Ann Cope. There were 35 host families in the 1996 competition.

he picked up English with hand signals and using the eyes and face. His piano playing really told a lot."

Cope said she was in awe of his talents and his ability to be so focused.

"He was very disciplined. He practiced every day."

The Copes live on a farm and the amount of land was overwhelming to Liu. Cope said. He was able to participate in a cattle round-up while staying with them.

The most incredible experience the family shared was when Liu won the junior competition.

"He just has extraordinary talents," Ann Cope said. "He is so humble and there is no egotism. He concentrates on his music and not on himself."

Cope remembers when Liu's father called from China to find out if he won.

"I couldn't understand what they were saying, but they were very excited," she said.

Cope said Liu offered to perform for her church.

"He was so gracious; he offered to play. He even played handbells for the first time with my bell choir," she said.

Leon said host families with children at home could benefit greatly from seeing

"It's amazing how quickly he picked up English. His piano playing really told us a lot."

Ann Cope
Host mother

how disciplined and focused these young pianists are.

"There is a piano company in Kansas City that has offered to bring pianos to place in the family's home if they need it," she said.

This year, Leon said the piano competition, April 21-25, is open to students free of charge. Students need only present their identification cards.

"All of these kids are here for us to enjoy," Leon said. "We need to take advantage of it." □

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Sabo to perform French favorites

By MARLA HINKLE
STAFF WRITER

Ever since she developed a love of music in the fourth grade, music major Megan Sabo has been playing the piano with enthusiasm.

In addition to her duties at the College, her job at Pinocchio Preschool in Webb City, and preparation for the upcoming senior recital, Sabo also teaches individual piano lessons.

In the senior recital, required of all senior music majors, Sabo will perform for an hour and play some of her favorite pieces. The recital will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16 in Webster Hall auditorium.

"I am really looking forward to the recital because it is a wonderful opportunity for me to perform some of my favorite pieces," she said.

Sabo said much of the music will be French. Her two favorite pieces are "La Sille Aux Chebux de Lin" and "Minstrels," both by W.C. Debussy. Practicing for this type of recital takes about two hours daily, Sabo said. The main concern she has is the performance in front of a large crowd.

"Playing in front of a large group of people always makes me nervous, no matter how well I know the piece," she said.

Sabo's instructor, Dr. Henry Jones, assistant professor of music, has no such fears for his pupil.

"I have been teaching Megan for about two years now, and she is an excellent student," he said. "I anticipate that she will do very well at the recital."

Jones said Sabo will be playing two duet pieces with her sister, one of which is "Children's Guest" by Bizet.

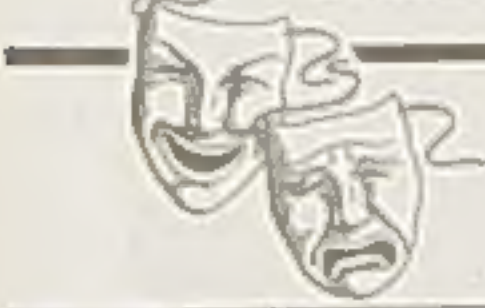
Career plans for Sabo include continuing to teach piano lessons. Sabo gets almost as nervous about her own students' recital as her own.

"I have my first student piano recital on April 11 and I am excited about that," she said.

Her students range from age 5 to 70. Sabo offers some advice to students wishing to begin lessons.

"Students need to begin around age 8, and their parents should encourage them to set up a practice schedule," she said. "Playing the piano can also be very beneficial in a church setting. If one is a member, then they can volunteer to play for the church."

"Music enriches life so much and makes one more dependable." □



COMING ATTRACTIONS

On Campus

TAYLOR AUDITORIUM

April 18 - 19—Beauty and the Beast, 2:30 p.m.
April 21 - 25—Missouri Southern International Piano Competition

SPIVA ART GALLERY ON CAMPUS

April 23—Winged Lion reading, 3 p.m.
April 26—Senior art exhibits begin

WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

April 13 - 14—Gockel International Symposium, "Africa: The Neglected Continent," 7:30 p.m.
April 16—Megan Sabo, senior piano recital, 7:30 p.m.
April 30—Cathryn Burt, senior vocal recital, 7:30 p.m.

MATTHEWS AUDITORIUM

Foreign Films
April 14—The Torment

Joplin

THE BYPASS

624-9095

April 11—The Paladins and The Victors
April 18—W.C. Clark
April 24—Night Train
April 29—Rod Piazza
May 1—Oreo Blue
May 15—SkyBopFly

CORDELL WILSON BOOKSELLERS

April 17—Poetry Slam, 7:30 p.m.

CHAMPS

782-4944

April 10 - 11—Steve Malcolm
April 13—Baby Jason and the Spankers
April 17—Jeda Soul
April 18—Comfortable Shoes
April 20—Robby Lawes
April 24—Don Ships
April 25—Next of Kin
April 28—Flash Terry
May 1 - 2—Prodigal Sons

Kansas City

THE BEAUMONT

April 17—Joe Satriani
May 6—Ska Against Racism

KEMPER ARENA

June 6—Robert Plant and Jimmy Page

MIDLAND THEATRE

April 14—Sarah McLachlan with Lisa Loeb

Carthage

THE POWERHOUSE

April 10—"U-Turn" The Parking Lot Tour, featuring four new Christian bands, 7:30 p.m.

Springfield

SHRINE AUDITORIUM

April 24—Audio Adrenaline, Supertones, and Jennifer Knapp, 7:30 p.m.

ARTS SHOWCASE



■ The award-winning Swedish film *Torment* will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14 in Matthews Hall Auditorium as the final program of this year's film series.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Power Rangers to visit Freeman Health System

The Power Rangers will appear at Freeman Health System from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. today. The Rangers will appear on the west campus at 1102 W. 32nd St. as well as the east campus at 932 E. 34th St. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is bringing the Power Rangers as a benefit for the Children's Miracle Network.

The Power Rangers are touring Wal-Mart locations across the United States to celebrate their fifth anniversary. The tour includes rides on the Power Rangers Reactor Ride, a virtual reality trip into space.

The Power Rangers Rocket Tour is building awareness for the Children's Miracle Network by visiting the CMN hospitals on tour stops. □

Finalists announced for annual business award

Baird, Kurtz and Dobson and the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce have announced the 1998 Small Business of the Year finalists in recognition of the outstanding contributions of small business to the economy and the overall progress of the Joplin area. Selection is based on evidence of successful operation of a business and evidence of significant contributions to the community. The following have been recognized as the 1998 Small Business of the Year finalists: College Press Publications; Covert Electric Supply; Hardy and Associates, CPAs, P.C.; JCT Title Services; Sparlin Advertising Assoc., Inc.; and Steve's Frame and Body Shop.

The Small Business of the Year winner will be announced at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce annual banquet on Thursday, April 16. □

Contract awarded for resurfacing road work

At its April 3 meeting, the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission (MHTC) awarded a \$763,970 contract to Journagan Construction Company, Inc., of Springfield, to resurface various sections of state roads in southwest Missouri.

The contract includes resurfacing a total of 40.6 miles of existing highway with one inch of new asphalt. Work is expected to begin in May, and will affect the following routes: Route FF at the Jasper-Newton County line, from .2 mile east of Route 71 to U.S. Route 71 Alternate; Route 97 in Lawrence County, from Interstate 44 to Route 96; Route 76 in Barry County from Route 37 in Cassville, Mo., to Route 39; Route 76 in Barry County from Route 39 to the Stone County line; Route 39 in Stone County from Barry County line to the Arkansas state line.

Resurfacing on all five sections of road is expected to be completed in October 1998. □

License plates provide individuality, donation

In conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention month, the Freeman for Kids Coalition has developed a program to provide cribs that meet national safety standards to area income-eligible families. For qualifying families, the coalition will replace cribs that fail to meet safety standards, or if the family does not own a crib, provide a new crib for the infant. A safe home assessment will be conducted and education on other safety issues will also be provided.

Contributions can be made to this program by purchasing a Missouri Children's Trust Fund official license plate. The personalized plates, decorated with a child's handprints in primary colors and the Children's Trust Fund "jack-in-the-box" logo, can be purchased for a minimum \$35 donation to the Children's Trust Fund. □

CITY GOVERNMENT

Voters elect new City Council members

Stinnett, Adams, Clark fill
three Joplin council seats

By KIKI COFFMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Though there was a low voter turnout at the polls Tuesday, positions and duties were assigned after voters cast their ballots for five members on the Joplin City Council.

The Council members were elected by only 12.3 percent of Joplin's eligible voters.

Results after a five-candidate trek for three general Council seats were Phil Stinnett, with 2,085 votes; Darieus Adams, with 1,937; and Donald E. Clark, with 1,733. Mike Woolston had 1,541 votes and Phillip Brown had 1,259.

Counts are based upon complete unofficial totals from Jasper and Newton County precincts.

Also elected on Tuesday were Jack Belden, incumbent Zone 1 councilman, and Bobby Landis, to the Zone 4 Council seat. Both were unopposed in their elections.

Almost all of the newly elected board members are acquainted with life on the Joplin City Council and have served on the Joplin City Council before.

Two of the newly elected members have served as mayor pro tem for the City of Joplin

"I didn't have any real strategies during the election and I don't know how you would assess the public's reaction to the facts provided about each candidate..."

Darieus Adams
Joplin City Councilman

in their former capacities on the Joplin City Council.

Adams, 33, a past member of the Joplin zoning commission, has also served on the Joplin City Council as mayor pro tem.

Clark, 39, a podiatrist, served as mayor pro tem on the Joplin City Council from 1976 to 1978 and as mayor of the City of Joplin from 1986 to 1990.

Clark's 32-year post on the Joplin City Council outruns any of the other candidates' stints on the board.

Reeling in the vote

Below are the results of the general council posts. Counts are based upon complete unofficial totals from Jasper and Newton County precincts.

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL

Phil Stinnett	2,085
Darieus K. Adams	1,937
Donald E. Clark	1,733
Mike Woolston	1,541
Phillip K. Brown	1,259

Stinnett, 56, a wholesale dealer representative with Peller Window and Door Co., has served on the building board of appeals for the past 10 years.

Chief financial officer for the Russell Belden Co., Belden, 63, served on the Council from 1972 to 1984.

During those twelve years, he served as mayor of the City of Joplin from 1978 to 1982, and he has just completed another four-year term.

Landis, 31, is the general manager and co-owner of the Land-Go Broadcasting Co.

Adams said he was excited about his future

four years on the Joplin City Council.

"We have four good years ahead of us and nine good people on the Council," he said.

"I didn't have any real strategies during the election and I don't know how you would assess the public's reaction to the facts provided about each candidate, but I feel good about the people the Council is working with," Adams said.

Adams and the other newly elected members share an interest in Joplin's infrastructure and view annexation as a reasonable avenue to expand the city's horizons.

Landis, Clark, and Stinnett could not be reached on Wednesday for comment. □

SPACE GAMES



Seth Wallace, 5, Oronogo, explores what it is like to be inside a space station while his mother, Karla Wallace, looks on. Seth and his mother investigated a variety of hands-on apparatus while visiting the NASA International Space Station Exhibit, on Wednesday in the Northpark Mall parking lot.

KIKI COFFMAN/The Chart

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Cameras watch kids

Jonesboro tragedy prompts speculation
of school safety, administrators' measures

By JALYN HIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

School administrators, parents, and students are beginning to wonder if area public schools are safe in wake of the March shooting in Jonesboro, Ark.

"We are much more aware today of violent or aggressive behavior of students," said Keith Zeka, assistant superintendent of Joplin schools, "and we try to do our best to keep those students out of our school."

Joplin High School has surveillance cameras on its parking lots and a security guard to help if the need arises.

"I feel safe at school," said Lessley Goddard, senior at Joplin High School. "But I always know in the back of my mind that something could happen."

Goddard believes safety is increased by the security officer and the school's three principals who are always around.

According to Kurt Denton, junior at Webb City High School, "I think it (the safety) is great and we don't have any problems."

He believes regular locker checks and strict rules and punishments help keep students out of trouble.

"Public schools are more likely to have problems," said Ronald Barton, superintendent of Webb City schools.

"But the state of Missouri has come down hard on students."

Barton is referring to the Missouri Safe School Law, which allows a public school to have access to any record of violent or aggressive behavior.

This law also gives a public school the right to prohibit a student's attendance.

"It makes teachers, parents, and students feel better to know that we are doing our best to protect everybody in our schools," Zeka said.

Neosho High School recently received a grant to purchase eight surveillance cameras for classrooms, to hire an additional full-time and half-time security guard, and to install a new intercom system and new lighting around the track.

"One of the paramount things any administrator is concerned with is the safety of our kids," said Gary Quinn, superintendent of Neosho schools.

"You are always checking yourself on safety." □

Champs

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MISSOURI CONSTITUTION

Desegregation passes Senate

Kansas City, St. Louis will receive bulk of \$153 million school relief package; voters approve K.C. levy

By AARON DESLATTE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Acknowledging the demise of court-ordered urban school desegregation, the Missouri Senate gave its final approval to a response plan that would keep the Kansas City School District afloat when funding ends next year.

The bill would also provide for the St. Louis district, when a court settlement is reached.

Over the last 12 years, an excess of \$3 billion in state revenue has been used to fund the desegregation of the two cities' school districts in compliance with a federal circuit court's mid-1980s mandate.

The Senate passed, on a 26-8 vote, a \$153 million package aimed at lessening the blow the two school districts would receive when the desegregation funding ends. The bill would redistribute a portion of the \$270 million presently being used to facilitate the desegregation program.

According to Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca), one of seven Republicans who voted against the legislation, the bill calls for 91 percent of the money to go toward 25 percent of Missouri's students located in Kansas City and St. Louis. The remaining funding will go toward the other 75 percent of Missouri's student population throughout the state.

Singleton said he was opposed to the bill because it unfairly gave financial preference to urban school systems over rural ones.

He also said the constitutionality of raising taxes for the

bill without a vote of the people should be called into question.

For the Joplin R-8 School District, the bill will cause little impact on the district's appropriation-increase freeze, imposed in 1993 by legislation that reorganized the way basic funding is distributed throughout the districts.

"We've proved you can't pour money into a system and expect it to work," said Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin). "The [urban] test scores have not improved one bit, and we have Taj Mahal [schools] that don't work."

The Senate's desegregation bill would provide little financial relief for districts, such as Joplin R-8, which have been denied allocation increases since then, according to school officials.

Joplin R-8 finance director Paul Barr said the 1993 decision forced local residents to pick up the tab, rather than the state.

"[The legislation] redefined which districts had more financial ability than others to raise money for education. Joplin was listed as one of the districts which had high financial ability," Barr said.

"That means that for four years we've had to stretch the valuation of the local dollar further."

Expecting a similar southwest Missouri response in the House as to that in the Senate, Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) said Joplin's financial situation would be stretched to the limit if changes are not made.

"Joplin has not gotten any new money for four years," Burton said.

"The school district is going to start hurting."

At election polls throughout the state Tuesday, Missouri voters delivered a resounding message to the Kansas City and St. Louis school districts by passing two amendments that call for the two districts to begin carrying their own weight in paying their bills.

"We've proved you can't pour money into a system and expect it to work."

Rep. Chuck Surface
(R-Joplin)

Amendment 3, passed by a 2-1 margin by Missouri voters, would allow the Kansas City School District to preserve almost entirely its existing school tax levy.

Currently, Kansas City's property tax level is \$4.96 per \$100 of assessed property valuation.

That amount would drop to \$2.75 once desegregation ends next year.

The vote means that the Kansas City residents will continue to pay the \$75 million to \$80 million in tax revenue and matching state funds.

Kansas City educators had predicted the district would go bankrupt and require a state bail-out if the amendment had failed.

Amendment 4, passed by a similar margin, would provide for school districts to sell more bonds in order to finance renovation and expansion. The amendment allows school districts to issue bonds up to 10 percent of their assessed valuations, up from 5 percent.

Its passage was considered critical by St. Louis school district officials, who said many districts are in dire need of renovations and additional classrooms.

NEWTON COUNTY

Legislator says Joplin tax office could be election issue

By AARON DESLATTE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Even if the legislation fails this session, Missouri State Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin) believes the idea of requiring the Newton County tax collector to establish a branch office in southern Joplin will become a factor in the upcoming elections.

The bill, sponsored by Surface, would call for the Newton County tax collector to establish an office in any building constructed after Aug. 28, 1998. The bill would not require the county to construct such a facility. The legislation comes in response to what Surface said is a growing need to better provide services to Newton County residents residing in the northern portion of the state and cut travel time.

"People are driving from Joplin to the courthouse [in Neosho]," Surface said. "That's 22-plus miles."

While drawing strong support from Joplin residents, the bill has received criticism from some Newton County officials and residents south of Joplin, the foremost being the requirement to allocate staff for the branch office from the existing one.

The bill also faces opposition from some committee members, including Surface's fellow party member, Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho), who said his dislike of the bill stems from principle.

"My concern for the bill has nothing to do



Surface

with the current law," Marble said. "I do not believe it is the obligation of the state to mandate anything to a sub-division as to what they will do without a vote of the people."

In defense, Surface alluded to neighboring Jasper County, which established a branch courthouse in Joplin as the result of a bill passed in 1891 by the General Assembly.

While the Jasper branch office required an increase in budgeting allocations, Surface said the limited role of a Newton County office would make it financially feasible.

He added that the booming economy in the northern region of the county centering around Joplin's "hotel district," located south of the Jasper County line, needed a closer facility.

"This is a county in change," Surface said. "It's moving dynamically north. It's going to

continue to grow faster in the north than the south."

Surface said of the 2,407 businesses within Joplin city limits, 409 are south of 32nd Street, where Newton County begins, and that of the approximately \$14.5 million collected in property taxes last year, \$2.2 million came from Newton County.

While Newton County Commissioner Bud Powell has voiced opposition to the bill, associate commissioner Melvin Alford, who oversees affairs in northern Newton County, has been a proponent of the legislation, which he said would "alleviate the situation."

According to Surface, the demand for a closer facility would likely become an election issue in the fall if his bill fails.

"I think the people in the north end of the county have the right to ask 'Why aren't we receiving services?' And I think they will."

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Radio accusations target Attorney General Nixon

Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon has found himself on the receiving end of statewide radio advertisements which accuse him of trying to deny citizens of \$80 million in refund checks.

The ads have come courtesy of the Missouri Republican Party and dispute Nixon's appeal of a Cole County District Court ruling regarding riverboat admission fees which were subject to special refunds to taxpayers.

A spokesperson for Nixon's office said if the fees are refunded, it would cut into state funding for highway patrolmen. Nixon's office pointed out that he has supported tax refunds in the past.

Missouri River makes 'most endangered' list

The Missouri River was ranked second on American Rivers' list of the most endangered rivers in the country.

The list, released Monday, catalogues U.S. rivers threatened by pollution or development on which key political decisions are looming.

The Missouri River is in trouble due to its overuse, rather than pollution which landed the neighboring Kansas River at the No. 20 spot on the list.

Last year, the Missouri River was top on the list.

Missouri's drop on the list has been attributed to a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to publish a list of eight ways to best manage the river's flow.

The Corps of Engineers took the flak for originally changing the flow of the river in 1944.

Its decision to rectify the damage prompted the drop in ranking.

Mental health committee upgrading support system

The Department of Mental Health System Redesign Committee is continuing its work on redesigning the state's publicly funded psychiatric and substance abuse treatment services and support system.

The 16-person committee met April 3 to discuss the department's values and goals for system redesign as some principles to guide the department's thinking on populations to serve and services to provide.

The committee discussed using innovative measures, such as partnering with other state agencies and helping service providers access other funding streams to increase the availability of psychiatric and substance abuse services and supports to citizens.

The Department of Mental Health is redesigning its psychiatric and substance abuse treatment services and supports system to improve access, coordination, and quality of services.

It is a subcommittee of the Missouri Mental Health Commission. It is reviewing the public input obtained by the department at meetings held throughout the state during the past six months.

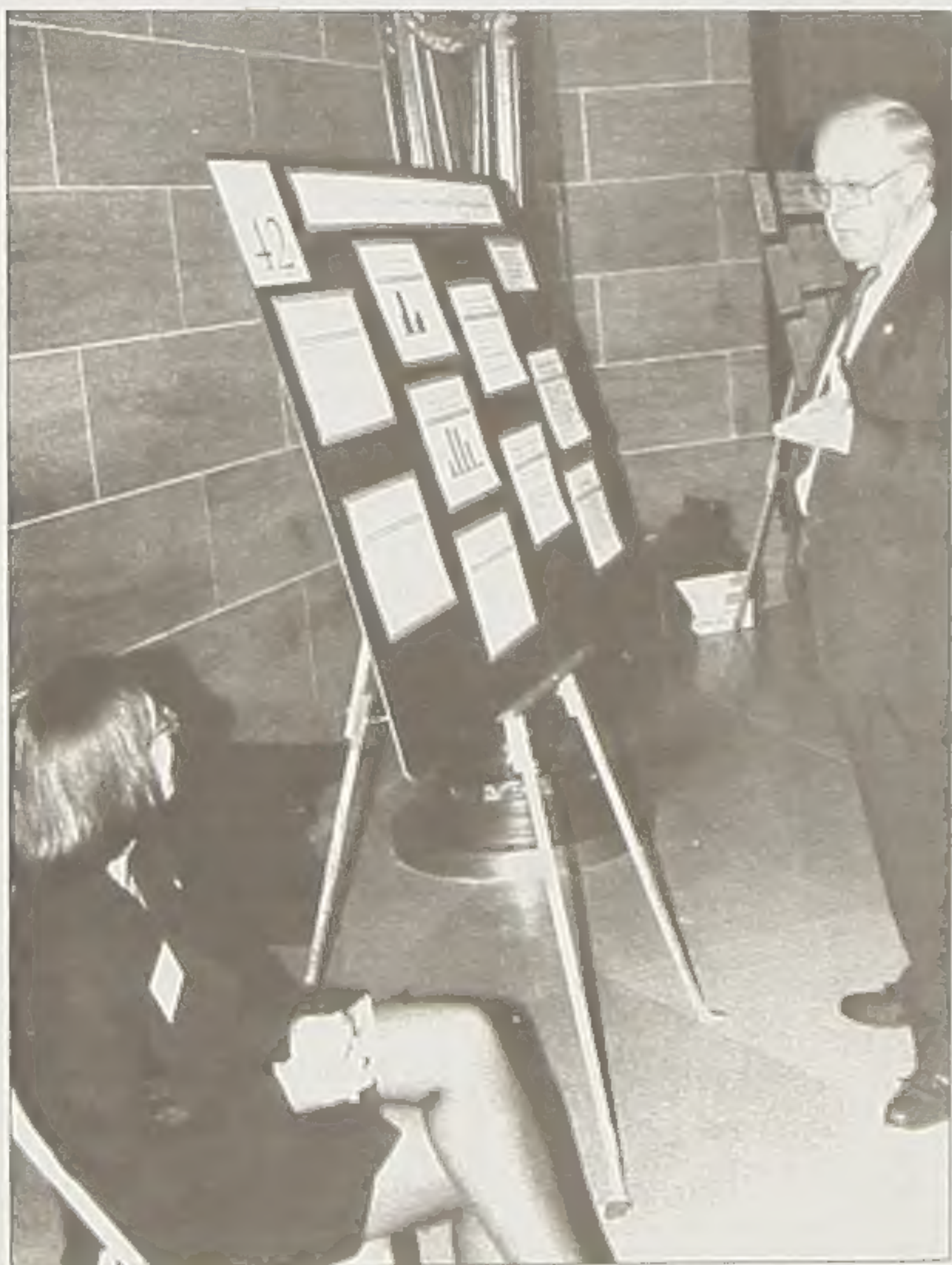
It will make recommendations in September to the mental health commission.

"Very important decisions will be made over the next several months about the future of the state's publicly funded psychiatric and substance abuse services and supports," said David Ohlms, M.D., chairman of the mental health commission.

"The basis for those decisions must be what is best for people receiving services and their families."

"Public input continues to be a very important component of this process," said Roy Wilson, director of the Department of Health.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF



AARON DESLATTE/The Chart

Sen. Marvin Singleton took time from his schedule to meet students from Truman State University as they displayed projects during the school's undergraduate career day.

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

Senate bill advocates removal of student

By AARON DESLATTE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Amending a "mishap" in the Revised Statutes of Missouri (RSMo.), a Senate consent bill that would eliminate the requirement for a student curator on the Lincoln University Board of Curators met no opposition at a House higher education committee hearing Wednesday.

Sen. Larry Rohrbach (D-California), who is sponsoring the legislation, told the committee he didn't bring any witnesses to the hearing because he didn't anticipate any resistance. He also mentioned that the committee had probably heard the information before at a similar hearing for the legislation's companion bill in the House.

"You've probably heard this before, so I don't want to waste your time," he said to committee members.

The bill would reword RSMo. to delete phrasing that states "At least one curator should be a full-time student of Lincoln University." According to Rohrbach, the phrasing is not needed because the same paragraph also calls for a non-voting student representative to be appointed to the board.

Lincoln University spokesperson Keith Fuller said the mistake in wording, which has been on the books since 1986 when Missouri's higher education statutes were revised, had not been corrected before because no one knew it was there. He also said the student curator position has never been filled.

"Ever since its establishment, Lincoln University has had a student representative," Fuller said. "[We] have never had a curator that has been a student. This bill will clarify the mistake and bring us in line with the rest of the schools in Missouri."

Both consent bills come to hearing within weeks of legislation sponsored by Sen. Ken Jacob (D-Colombia) that would provide for the appointment of a voting student and faculty representative to state university and college administrative boards.

Fuller, who said Rohrbach's bill was not in response to Jacob's legislation, downplayed recent complaints from some Lincoln University students regarding the bill.

"When you first hear of the bill, it sounds like we're taking away a student's rights," Fuller said. "But students will continue to have a voice through their student representative."

Fuller said the House higher education committee would likely approve the bill when it takes up the issue Tuesday.

"When you first hear of the bill, it sounds like we're taking away a student's rights. But students will continue to have a voice..."

Keith Fuller
Lincoln University

STUDENTS: North Central team quizzes students about life on College's campus

From Page 1A

Sheila Kaplan, president of Metropolitan State College of Denver, said to open the meeting. "Do you think students here are aware of this niche?"

Copeland said she saw the study abroad programs as appealing to a variety of students and allowing the campus to become more involved with the mission.

"Also, these days anything in the business world is not happening nationally but globally," she said.

Another area the committee wanted to touch on was that of Southern's atmosphere.

"The only time I ever regretted coming to Southern is when I felt like I had missed the college atmosphere," Copeland said. "But I also feel like Southern is a very academic school compared with a lot of places my friends attend."

"Students have to be self-motivated to get involved," Ross said. "But you have to kind of expect that with a primarily commuter college."

Jason Talley agreed with Copeland when the subject shifted.

"The community still looks at Missouri Southern as a community school, and I don't think a lot of people appreciate the work we do here," he said.

With that, NCA members began asking about community and faculty views of the international mission.

"The international mission is only good if it doesn't override the actual mission," Jason Talley said.

"Everyone has to realize that we are going to have to compete internationally," Copeland said.

Dr. Betty Jo Licata, dean of business administration at Youngstown

State University, breached the question of diversity. Kaplan asked if the students thought there was an acceptance of diversity on campus.

"I think our acceptance has a lot to do with smaller class sizes where we get to become more aware of similar and dissimilar ideas," Ross said.

Dr. Bobbie Irvin, vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, said she had watched students in the courtyard earlier in the afternoon.

"I saw people in all different walks of life laughing and talking and it was all very spontaneous," she said. □

BASEBALL: Statehouse economic plan needs some extra time in batting cages

From Page 4A

office backed by bipartisan support in the General Assembly appears carefree, if not reckless, in the sense that both appear to be operating under the assumption that Missouri's recent economic expansion is an eternal wellspring.

Unfortunately, economic systems operate in repetitive cycles of recession and recovery.

Just ask former governor Kit Bond, who was in office in 1981 when Missouri's economy took a nose-dive into recession. The drop jump-started the idea among state legislators to create a "rainy day" fund. The fund was established in 1988, but little has been done since.

With ever-increasing prison populations and mass baby-boomer retirements depleting Social Security on

the horizon, economists and historians alike admit the state and national economic boom cannot perpetuate itself infinitely. And by continuously spending every dollar that comes across his desk, Carnahan risks being caught with his head in the sand when, not if, hard times come calling.

At press time, the Marlins were in the N.L. East cellar on a six-game losing streak — six months after win-

ning the World Series. When the Marlins were dogpiling on each other and basking in their success after taking game seven from the Indians, they weren't thinking about their team's economic future. Now, many are shopping for homes in other states.

I hope Carnahan is a baseball fan, less a large number of Missourians find themselves in a similar predicament. □

FIRE: Sisters burned out of homes

From Page 1A

from the vacuum. She was able to get her kids out of the house before the fire began.

The fire department said the chemical was highly flammable and told her if she had attempted to douse the flames with water, the chemical would have combusted immediately.

"I really think the smoke was a sign," she said. "I tried to go back in and put the fire out or throw the vacuum out but I couldn't see because of the white smoke. God was there; I know it. For three days I just hugged my kids and held on to them."

Lovett's house at 827 Patterson burned while her family was in the process of moving. "We all went out to dinner and came back, and the house was gone," she said.

Lovett and Young have found a way to get something out of their tragedies. Lovett and Young now have a new respect for what is truly important in life — family.

Lovett and her family have opened their new home to her sister and four children.

"There was no hesitation at all; family sticks together no matter what happens," Lovett said. "The really hard part was calling our mother and telling her it happened again."

Young said aside from drawing closer to her family, she has found a new determination to succeed.

"I was completely devastated for a week," she said. "I couldn't tell you what happened, who I saw, or what I did. All I know is I had my kids and that is all I needed."

"There have been a lot of silver linings. It has brought my family closer together. It has taught me to not give up. It would be so easy to give up and crawl into a little hole, but I can see a future now. I'm bound and determined to not give up."

"This has made me look at Joplin a lot differently. There are people out there who care. I hope I can be like that when someone needs me." □

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Assistant professor of biology, Vickie Roettger takes pride in the creative and unusual visual aids she uses in her class.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Roettger brings fun to classroom

By BRET ANDERSON
CHART REPORTER

There are more than a trillion peanut butter sandwiches in the human body.

Dr. Vickie Roettger, assistant professor of biology at Missouri Southern, uses a peanut butter sandwich to illustrate the plasma membrane of human cells to her General Biology students. Sandwiches, pipe cleaners, Legos, and Styrofoam balls are only a few of the props Roettger uses in her approach to teaching. Her main focus is getting the students involved.

"Different people learn different ways," she said. "You constantly have to come up with some way to get the information across."

There is also a bit of magic in her teaching style. Roettger's role model as an instructor is her father, Kenneth. He was a chemistry professor and an amateur magician. To get the attention of his students, he started each class with a magic trick.

Roettger came to Southern in August 1997. She found the job posted on the World Wide Web through the *Chronicle of Higher Education's* site. Southern offered her the opportunity she was looking for.

"I wanted to teach at a smaller college where I could deal one on one with students," she said. "[Southern is] such a student-oriented school, and I love that."

Roettger received her bachelor and master of science degrees in medical technology at the University of Iowa. For the next six years, she worked as a medical technician at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City. She then earned her Ph.D. in biomedical sciences at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

After receiving her Ph.D., Roettger began a career in medical research. She worked for three years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studying the physiology of strokes. She continued this research for another three years at Oregon Health

Sciences University in Portland. During these six years, Roettger had publications in three journals, gave national presentations, and was awarded grants for her research.

Roettger is now teaching her second semester of Southern. She currently teaches General Biology, Molecular and Cellular Biology, and Pathophysiology. She hopes to develop a class in neuroscience and eventually add a research component to her instruction.

"There's a lot you can learn by doing research," she said. "It gets you a real sense of accomplishment. I don't think students necessarily get that just going to lecture classes."

When she is not teaching or doing research, Roettger pursues a variety of outdoor activities: cross-country skiing, hiking, white-water rafting and rock climbing, to name a few. She also enjoys crafts and antique shows, but her real passion is traveling. There are only three states in the U.S. that she has not visited: Alabama,

North Dakota, and Hawaii.

"Hawaii, I'm leaving for retirement," she said.

She has also traveled to Mexico, Canada, and Europe. She toured Italy, France, England, Austria, Germany, and Belgium with a concert band the summer after she graduated from high school. Roettger particularly enjoyed her visit to England.

"It gave me the taste," she said, "and I'm desperate to get back."

Roettger wants students to "push to do something they don't think they can do." One of her personal triumphs was competing in the Hood to Coast Race, a 196-mile relay which began in Mount Hood, Ore., and finished in Seaside, Ore.

She also encourages students to take advantage of her advice and accessibility.

"I want to let people know that I'm here to come ask me questions," she said. "You have to know when to ask for help," and "there's no such thing as a dumb question." □

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Marriage, daughter top list of Hulderman's achievements

By JACQUE MULLINS
CHART REPORTER

For all those students on campus who admire Pete Rose, there is another fan in the criminal justice department.

Michael Hulderman's hero is the former Cincinnati Reds great. "Not because of the gambling," he says, "but because he represents hard work."

Hard work is what Hulderman, the new assistant professor and training coordinator at the Mills Anderson Justice Center, is all about.

Having a hero like Rose, Hulderman's motto seems to be appropriate. His motto is "You become the best through hard work." Hulderman's hard work paid off, landing him a job at Missouri Southern in July.

Hulderman received a bachelor's in criminal justice administration from Southern and a master's at Northeastern (Okla.) State University. He is currently attending Pittsburg State University to obtain an education specialist degree in higher education. Next year, Hulderman plans to study for his doctorate in criminology at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

He decided in graduate school that law enforcement is where he could make a difference.

Hulderman was a Joplin police officer for five years before he came to Southern. "I would like to retire here," he says.

In November, Hulderman's daughter, Taylor Brooke, was born. Hulderman said he would like to have one or two more children. His wife, Jill, is now a full-time

mother, and one of her favorite shows is "COPS." Irony huh?

Hulderman's hobbies include spending time with his wife and daughter and playing golf and billiards.

"The biggest accomplishment I can think of," Hulderman says, "is finding a great wife and having a new baby."

Hulderman likes to set an example and put his impression on the students so that they will act appropriately once they graduate and are employed.

"What I like most about teaching is knowing I'm making an impact on new officers' careers."

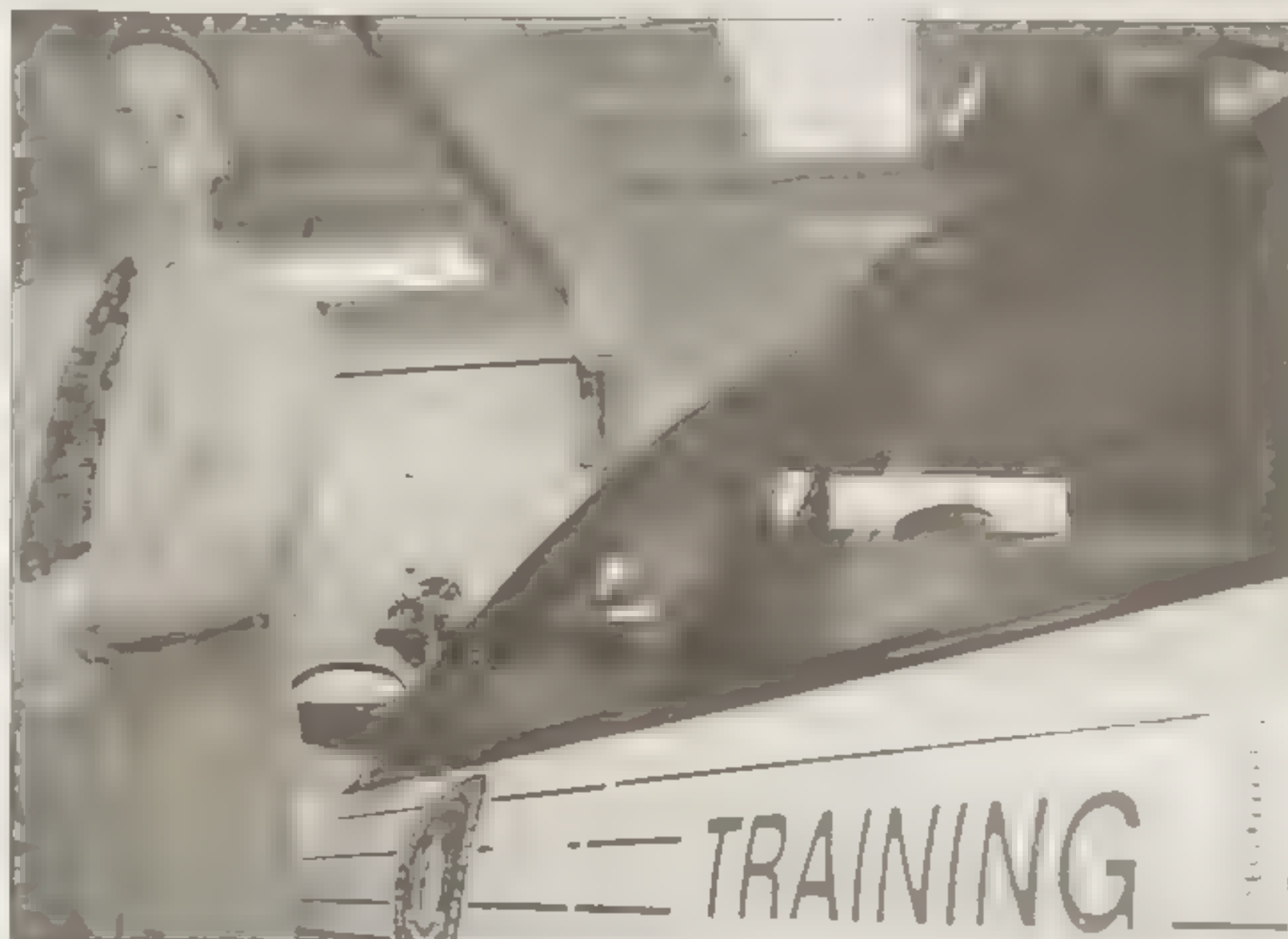
Concerning the future and the hardest part of his job, Hulderman says, "I've had no hard times. You make what it is. You can make the worst thing in the world or you can make the best."

For those students looking to follow in Hulderman's footsteps, he suggests a professional career in law enforcement, continuing their education, and being an ethical and productive citizen in their community.

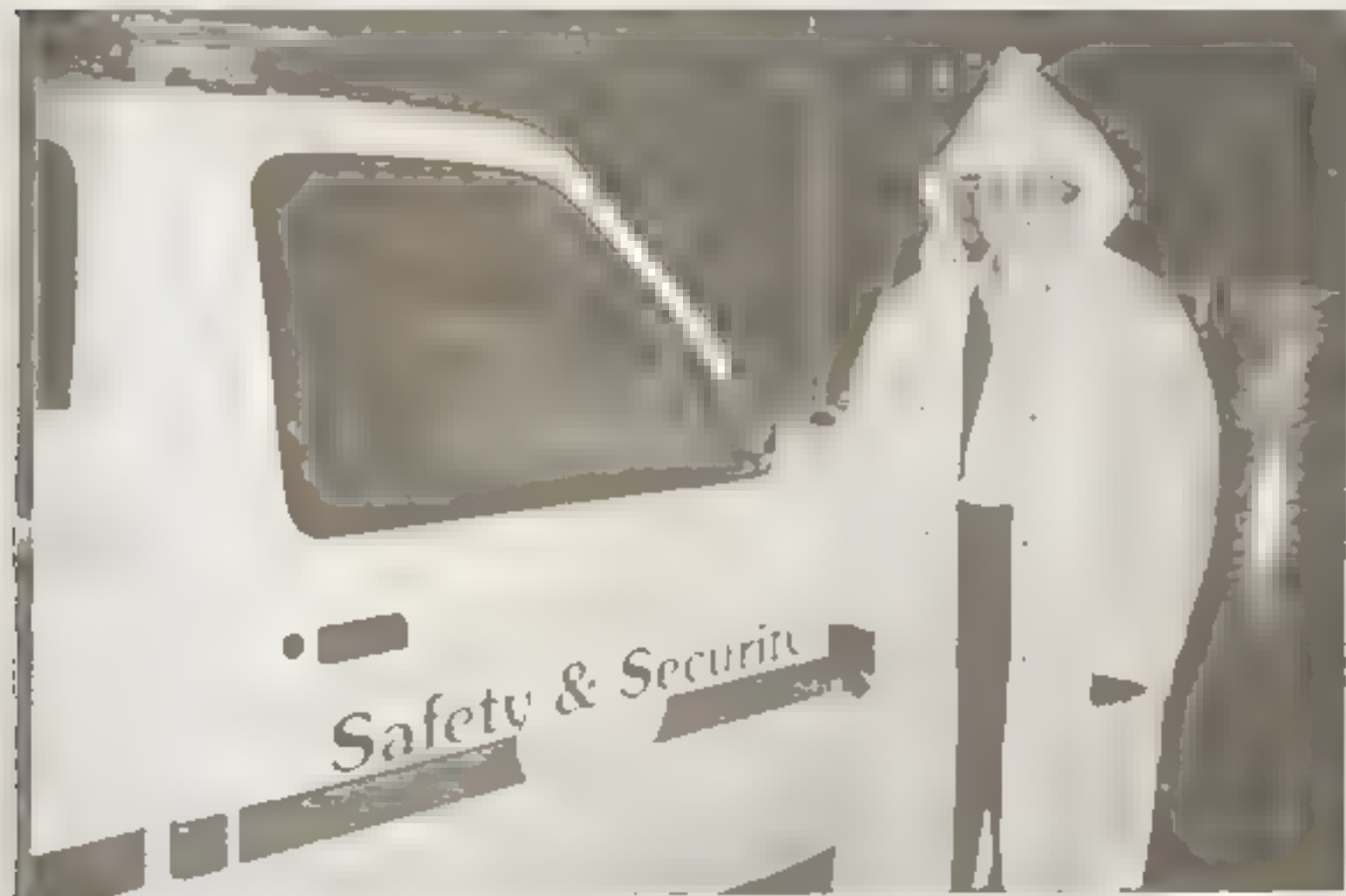
"Being an ethical and productive citizen will get you where you want to go," Hulderman says.

Hulderman, a Webb City High School graduate, has traveled often because his father was in the Air Force. The only traveling he has done since has been to Mexico on a vacation with his wife of nine years, Jill.

Hulderman's philosophy of life is a strong one. When he talks about his philosophy of life, he returns to his Pete Rose frame of mind and tells everyone that if they "enjoy every day and work hard they will be a success in life." □



Michael Hulderman, assistant training coordinator for the justice center, wants to impact student thinking.



Barbara Andersen, Southern's newest security guard, has taken on the night shift.

CAMPUS SECURITY

Andersen takes over graveyard shift

Southern hires first female security guard

By HEATHER FARREN
CHART REPORTER

Coming from Ontario, Calif., at Missouri Southern, Barbara Andersen has high hopes for her new job.

Andersen left her 10-year job as police technician for the graveyard security shift at Southern. New security guards usually get the later shift when first hired by the College.

When looking for a job, she turned to *The Joplin Globe* and found an opening for a

secretarial position on campus. She inquired about the ad, which led to a better-suited job as the new security officer. To the campus, this means the first female security officer in almost 15 years.

"The guys are really easy to get along with," she said.

The best part of the new job, she said, is the people she works with. She encountered a few difficulties after receiving the position. The late nights different from what she is used to, Andersen said, adding that this is normal. "All the new guys have to do it."

This shift's duties don't consist of writing tickets. She spends her evenings checking the security of the buildings and assisting students at the residence halls.

The hardest thing about the job, she said, while laughing, "is getting out of bed at 10 p.m. and go to work."

Andersen had been in her old job in Ontario for years. She took early retirement from the city police force.

"I received a nice plaque from the city of Ontario for retiring," she said. Although it was not retirement time specifically, she "just took it to come here." Andersen wanted to be closer to her family, originally from Kansas.

Before joining the Ontario police force, Andersen worked for a home for boys and as a medical assistant for a doctor.

She admits to being a normal everyday person. She loves her family of one daughter and three grandchildren. □

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Fill-in teacher education instructor enjoys Southern, loves teaching

By TALANA SLOAN
CHART REPORTER

An unusual helper named Pierre helps Dr. Bonnie Cox grade her homework assignments.

"My husband calls him Velcro because he's always velcroed close to me," said Cox, an instructor in the teacher education department at Missouri Southern.

Pierre is a little poodle. Cox said he is always resting on her arm, or sitting beside her, or on her lap. She said when she grades papers, "he puts his little nose up and he just rides my pencil."

Cox began teaching at the age of 18. She attended Southwest Baptist University the summer she graduated from high school and received her associate's degree

"You could teach with 16 hours at that time," Cox said. "You just had to go to school so many hours a week."

She attended many schools to receive her degrees. Cox received her bachelor's in social sciences with an emphasis in elementary education from Drury College in Springfield. She graduated from Pittsburg State University with her master's and her specialist's in administration. Cox earned her doctorate in administration with an emphasis in college teaching at Oklahoma State University.

Throughout her education she was married and commuting. She said as a result of this, "I never did spend much time on campus. I would not advise people to do it the way I did."

Becoming part of the college is

beneficial to the students, Cox says. She says students gain by becoming part of the culture.

"Teaching is what I ever wanted to do," Cox said.

She remembers trying to teach her two younger brothers to read with comic strips.

"Teaching has been my life," Cox said.

Cox has been in public education 33 years plus summers.

"I love to teach," she said.

Cox is teaching at Southern on a one-year appointment. She is filling in for an instructor who resigned. She said she would teach at Southern "as long as they want me."

"I feel very positive about this campus," Cox said.

She says she would put the school of education up against any,

"If I had a child, I would want them to come here," Cox said.

The students at Southern have impressed her. She says "many of them go beyond what's expected."

Besides teaching, Cox also travels. She and her husband of 40 years both have their pilot's license. They own an aerobatic plane.

"He does the flying and I just ride," Cox said.

She says they have been in every state and almost every continent.

"Each place has its own unique things I like about it," Cox said.

Collecting presidential memorabilia is a hobby Cox likes to pursue in her spare time. She said her family room is full of dolls, plates, mugs, and pictures.

Cox said her hero is Harry S. Truman because "he told me like

was and didn't pull any punches." She said any memorabilia that has to do with him is "special."

Walking is another hobby she has. Cox is president of the Dogwood Trailblazers in Joplin. Cox, her mother, and a friend, attended a convention in Portland, Ore., two years ago.

"We heard these people talking about winning these awards for walking," she said. "We thought, hey, we can do that."

This sparked the goal of walking 100 kilometers in every state.

"I have half the states down," Cox said.

Cox wants students to "enjoy today." She says too many people are living for the future.

She said no matter what people do in life, "we should give more than we take." Cox said everyone

66

My husband calls him Velcro because he's always velcroed close to me.

Bonnie Cox
Instructor, teacher education

99

would do this, "when we leave this old world, it's going to be a better place." □

Sports SCOPE

Baseball: The great white sport

When Jackie Robinson first stepped onto Ebbetts Field in 1947, a new era in baseball began. From then on, major league baseball has been open to black players. Baseball is still open, but nobody seems to care. Not in NCAA Division II anyway. The MIAA does not have very many black baseball players that they can call their own. Missouri Southern has none. It is true that most of the black baseball

players worth anything are either drafted out of high school or go to NCAA Division I colleges. But it is a coach's duty to bring these players here by whatever means necessary. That's what recruiting is all about.

Why would a black athlete come to Joplin anyway? Because we have an international mission? I doubt it.

The fact is, there are relatively few success stories that come out of Southern when it comes to black students, whether they are athletes or not. It's sad that they either leave the program and eventually the College, or just have the deck stacked against them from day one.

The last black baseball player at Southern was O.J. Rhone. He played football and baseball here in 1991 before transferring to Central Missouri State and signing with the Royals. He played on the Royals organization for two years and returned to CMSU to finish his college football career.

I can't see black players feeling welcome by our baseball program. Southern head baseball coach Warren Turner has worked hard to build an image of his team members that includes no earrings and extensive community service.

It is perfectly understandable to want a baseball team of clean-cut gentlemen who look good to everyone on the outside. It's insulting to me as a clean-cut gentleman that none of them are black.

It is becoming a norm for black men to sport an earring in their left ear. And the last time I checked, community service was not in the top 100 on the lists of black student-athletes unless they are fulfilling a probation quota.

In 1995, when Turner won the Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, he said that requiring his team to do community service was his way to pay back society. Some black athletes feel like they owe society nothing.

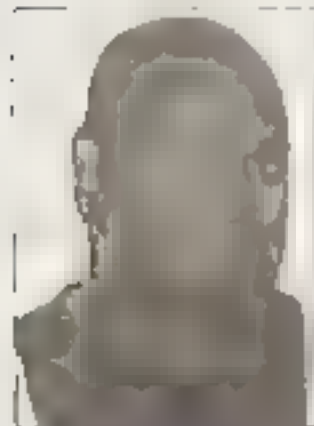
As we enter a new millennium, coaches must begin to adjust to the new trends. What worked 20 years ago won't work now. Although they are part of a team, athletes are individuals.

There are many strong, fast, capable young black baseball players who may be able to take our team to a national title. It is the coach's job to get them here.

This curve ball that I have pitched just may be the one that someone needs to swing at.

It may not be a home run ball, but there may be someone on third base waiting to come home.

And the sacrifice just might pay off. □



Andre Smith
Staff Writer

BASEBALL

Windy weekend may prompt big hits

By JEFF WELLS
STAFF WRITER

Riding a five-game winning streak and a Kansas gale, the Missouri Southern baseball Lions head to Pittsburg State this weekend for MIAA action.

The Lions (16-13 overall, 7-4 MIAA) have not seen action since defeating Lincoln University three times last weekend Wednesday's double-header at Truman State was postponed due to poor field conditions. No make-up date was set as of Wednesday.

Senior southpaw Kevin Escala (3-0) is slated to start today's game, which Lion head coach Warren Turner expects to be a hitters' dream due to high winds.

"We know it will be windy and there will be a lot of runs," Turner said. "It will take a lot of runs to win; they have a nice ball club."

Prior to Wednesday's action at Washburn, Pittsburg held a 5-2 conference mark

Sophomore Jeremy Fowler will take the mound for Saturday's 1 p.m. opener. Sophomore Matt Endicott is scheduled to pitch the nightcap.

Endicott said he is confident in his ability to pitch against the wind.

"When the wind is up you try to keep the ball low, down in the strike zone," he said. "The last thing you want is for them to hit the air."

Turner said Southern's success will depend on defense. Defense has been one of the team's strengths of late and a key to the current winning streak.

"We are doing a lot of things right," he said.

Turner has been working to fill gaps in the pitching staff. The most recent loss is senior right-hander Dana Morris, who will be out for the remainder of the year with a knee injury.

Senior right-hander Ralph Iovinelli has

taken over the closer duties, and several relievers have been moved to the starting rotations. Iovinelli has recorded three saves this season.

Turner has seen success with the shuffling. "We have eight guys and they are all throwing well," he said.

Senior Mike Bronakoski, Endicott, and Iovinelli picked up wins against Lincoln. Six Lions homered against the Blue Tigers.

Senior Stephen Crane was named MIAA hitter of the week with six hits, six RBIs, a double, and a home run against the Blue Tigers.

Southern returns to Joe Becker Stadium Wednesday against Washburn.

Endicott and the Lions get a short respite after Washburn, with only one game during the next week.

"I think from here on out our games are spread out," Endicott said. "Everybody can get rested up." □

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When the wind is up you try to keep the ball low, down in the strike zone. The last thing you want is for them to hit in the air.

Matt Endicott
Lion Pitcher

99

SOFTBALL

New pitcher leads Lady Lion surge

By JOE ECKHOFF
STAFF WRITER

Heading into the heart of the 1998 campaign, the Missouri Southern softball team came up with four key wins this week.

Southern (19-7 overall, 7-3 MIAA) downed Northeastern State University 6-0 and 12-1 on Monday.

"We played about as well as you can play, and we were able to win the second game in five innings," said coach Pat Lipira.

The Lady Lions continued their hot streak by sweeping Southwest Baptist University 3-0 and 3-0 Wednesday at Bolivar. Freshmen Britany Hargis (8-6) and Elisha Bonnot (8-1) hurled the shutouts.

"We played very well and the last four games we have only allowed one run," Lipira said. "This is how we wanted to play this year; I just hope we keep it up."

Hargis, who had her fifth shutout while striking out 10 and allowing only one hit, has been a pleasant surprise for the Lady Lions.

"Britany was first in the conference in ERA after the first stats came out, and she is only a freshman," Lipira said.

One area Lipira would like to improve on is the ability to play seven complete innings.

"We need consistency," she said. "Usually when we have played poorly it has been one inning. But our pitchers have continued to improve."

The offense has been led by senior Jennifer Jimerson, who tops the team in average (.486), runs (20), doubles (seven), triples (eight), and home runs (three). Jimerson's 24 career triples are a Southern record.

"Jennifer was the [MIAA] hitter of the week and hit around 500; she has been our leader both offensively and defensively," Lipira said.

"We have been having clutch hitting with runners in scoring position. Britany has been key, and we have won games with pitching, defense, and hitting," Lipira said.

Most of the Lady Lions' losses this season have been to ranked opponents, and four of their seven losses have been by two runs or less.

"We lost to Nebraska-Kearney, who is No. 1 in our region, and to Washburn, who is No. 2," Lipira said.

Even with two losses to regional foes, Lipira is confident her team will have a chance to reach post-season action.

"We feel like regionally we can beat anybody. This year there isn't one dominant team or dominant pitcher like there has been," she said. □



THE WILSON/The Olathe

Freshman pitcher Britany Hargis winds up for a pitch during Monday's game versus Northeastern (Okla.) State, Tahlequah. The Lady Lions defeated Northeastern in both games of the home doubleheader 6-0, 12-1.

TRACK & FIELD

Season begins with strong meet

Lions, Lady Lions break records early in outdoor season

By GINNY DUMOND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

After completing a record-breaking indoor season, the Lion and Lady Lion track teams have continued their streak into the outdoor season.

The Lady Lions, who broke nine school records in the 17 events of indoor track, have had some personal bests and school record times in their first two meets despite adverse weather conditions.

Though Southern traveled to Pittsburg State on March 19, icy conditions caused the meet to be canceled mid-way through. That made Friday's Radlo Shack Crossroads Invitational at home a first of the season for many athletes, but with gusty winds and cold conditions, competition was still difficult.

Lady Lion standout distance runner Sonia Eudy was able to compete at Pittsburg and replace her previous

school record of 36:44 in the 5,000-meter run.

"She ran 36:08 in the ice and snow," women's track coach Patty Vavra said. "Currently, that puts her on top of the ranks in the NCAA."

At Friday's meet, junior thrower Stephanie Waincott had an impressive day in the gusty winds.

"Stephanie now has a school record and provisional qualifier in the shot put," Vavra said.

Waincott threw 45.1 feet to replace her previous record of 42.2 feet.

"Heather Hoyle and Dolana Lofland had a good day," Vavra said. "Dolana Lofland is probably one of the best anchor legs we've had here at Southern and that I've really seen."

Lindsay Franks and Tina Keller are two hurdlers Vavra mentioned as having quality performances.

"And Kalyn Baugh was first in triple jump and had a personal best in long jump," she said. "For this being our first meet, I was really pleased with our performance at this point in the season."

This weekend, both the men's and women's teams will be traveling to compete at the University of Oklahoma.

"We're just hoping for warm weather, and it should be good competition," Vavra said.

The men's team also had a good indoor season, breaking five school records, and went into the Pittsburg meet looking to start off the outdoor season the same way.

Lee Heinenikson set a new school record in the hammer and Tomi Paalanen broke his old school record in the javelin, men's track coach Tom Rutledge said. "So, our throwers had an extremely good meet, even in the cold."

Because of spring break falling where it did, Rutledge says the team will have only four weeks to prepare before the district meet.

"It helps them to focus better, though," he said. "I felt like our athletes are really coming together."

There are a few things Rutledge would like to see happen in some better weather.

"I'd like to see Tomi get on a good runway on a good day," he said.

"And we need to find Jon Wilks a good day to run the 15 [hundred meter run]. Jon's one of the better runners in the nation; he just needs a good day to qualify." □

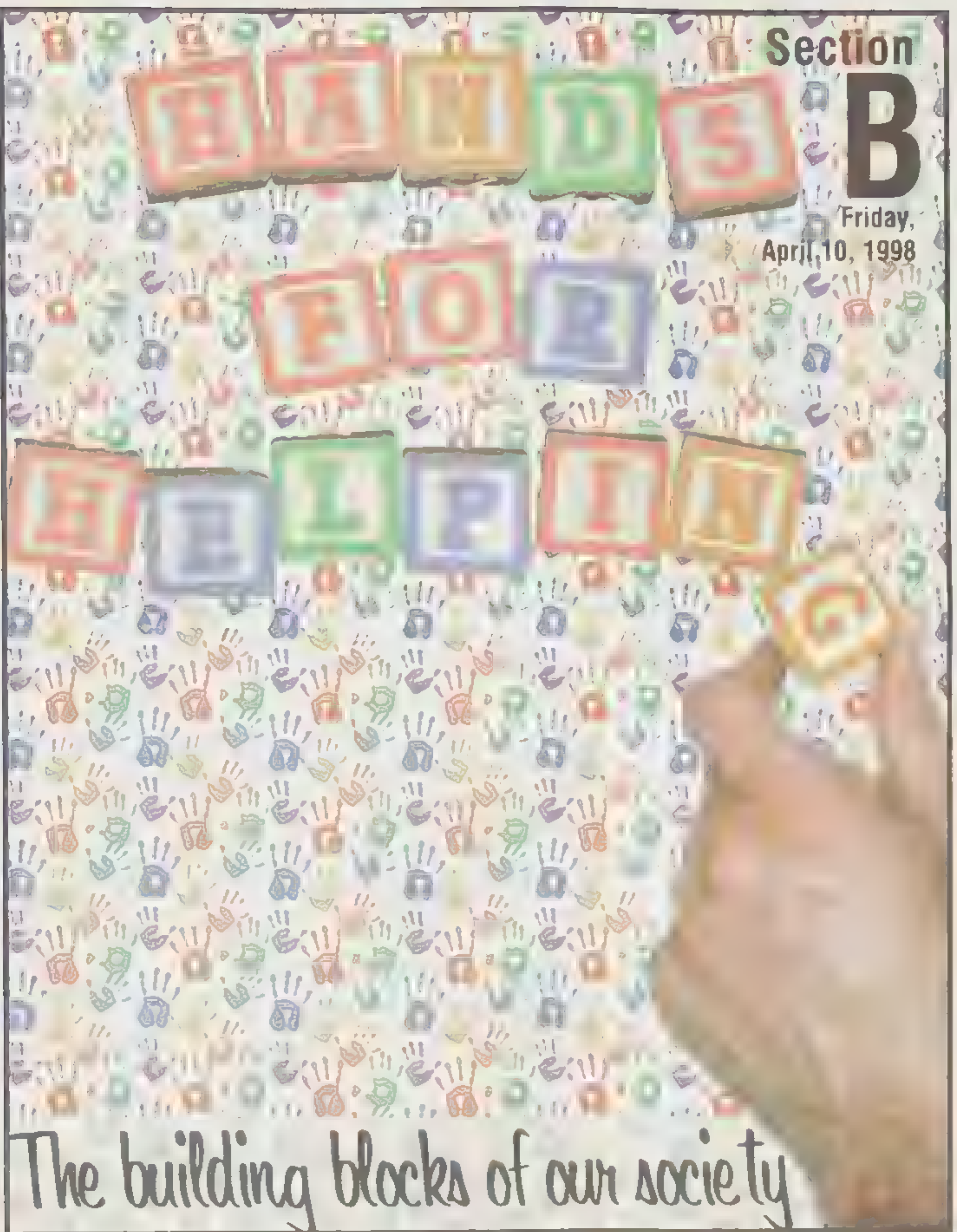


GINNY DUMOND/The Olathe

Junior jumper Rachel Carlin clears the pole during the high jump competition at Friday's Crossroads Invitational meet.

Section
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Friday,
April 10, 1998



The building blocks of our society

TABLE CONTENTS

Page 3 —

- Amnesty International
- Teaching Japanese

Page 4 —

- Habitat for Humanity
- The Gift of Life

Page 5 —

- Southern's Volunteer Team
- Helpers on the Rise

Page 6 —

- Koinonia Goes to Prison?
- Doing God's Work

Page 7 —

- Hammons Program
- Do Employer's Care?

Pages 8-9 —

- Volunteer Firefighters
- Greek Charities

Page 10 —

- Peace Corps Memories
- Charities Join Forces

Page 11 —

- Families Open Their Homes
- Joplin Jaycees

Page 12 —

- The Southern/United Way Link
- Charitable Internships

Page 13 —

- Big Siblings
- Environmental Volunteers

Page 14 —

- KSN Charities
- Horses of Hope

Page 15 —

- Making the Most of Our Time
- Lafayette House

Page 16 —

- A Healthy Dose of Volunteering



Spirit of volunteerism deserves recognition

All too often, the hardest work and dedication to an occupation, field of study, or social problem can go unnoticed, especially when done for free.

Ironically, it is the work of volunteers which can make the greatest impact in curbing a social ill or advancing a field. The activist, the enthusiast, cares more for the particular principle than a paycheck. The volunteer values the ideal in creating change more than personal achievement.

Today, volunteerism is needed in a

greater capacity than ever before. And Missouri Southern students, in increasing numbers, are responding to that need.

It is this willingness to help that provides the building blocks of a successful society.

Not every student who takes the time to affect change could be included within these pages.

Not every deed done out of the desire to positively impact someone else's life rather than résumé-stuffing self-interest is catalogued here.

But they don't have to be.

Long after each good deed is done, its ripple effect will still be felt. All volunteers deserve to be recognized, but that would almost seem to defeat the point.

The spirit of volunteerism doesn't need a spotlight or pedestal to be admired from — just participants willing to lend a hand.

Any volunteer will say the satisfaction that comes from affecting change far outweighs a paycheck. The results are far more reaching.

The hands that shape tomorrow are the hands that help today. □

GIRL SCOUTS

More than just selling cookies

Schow finds peddling tasty treats just one aspect of new job

By HEATHER OWENS
STAFF WRITER

One thing Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes have in common is they are all groups dedicated to the development of girls from age 1 to 17 otherwise known as Girl Scouts.

The youngest groups in the Girl Scout program are the Daisy Girl Scouts and Brownie Girl Scouts, said Debra Schow, campaign communications assistant and 1997 Missouri Southern graduate.

Daisies are made up of girls in kindergarten to first grade, and Brownies range from first to third grades.

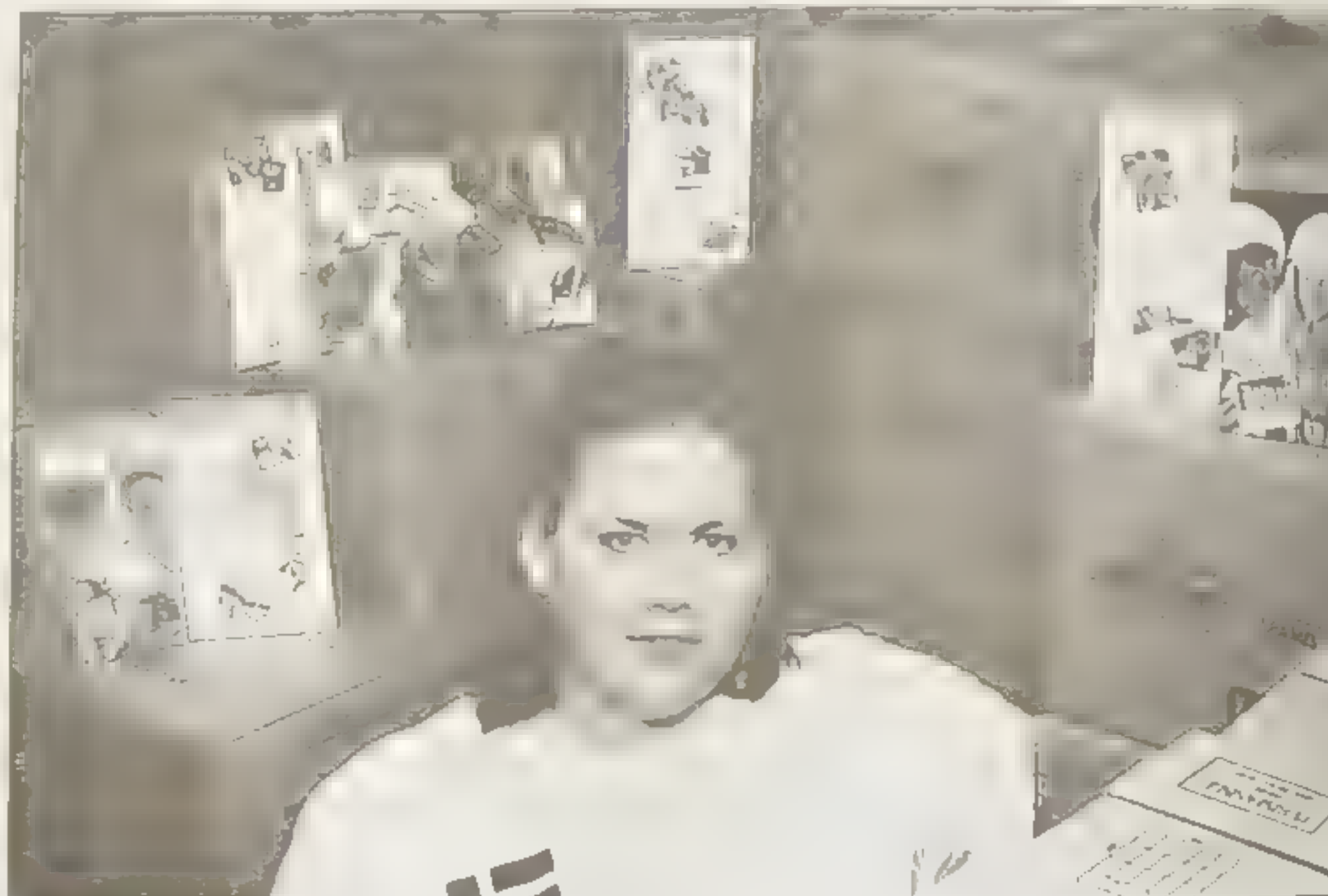
These groups are followed by Junior Girl Scouts, Cadette Girl Scouts, and Senior Girl Scouts.

This volunteer organization provides a safe environment for the members to enjoy their various interests.

"We do surveys, and one showed that sports was a big topic of interest for the girls," Schow said.

Activities include earning badges, doing community service projects, exploring careers, and participating in outdoor programs such as rappelling, canoeing, and camping.

"We give the girls a set of values that will help them throughout their entire



JOHN SMITH/Special To The O

Missouri Southern alumna Debra Schow found out working for the Girl Scouts means more than just selling cookies.

life," said Betty Turley, director of volunteer services.

Girl Scouts are always looking for volunteers to assume leadership roles and help with the many activities.

"Girl Scout volunteers are not always mothers," Turley said. "We have grandparents, friends, career people without children, and women who only have boys that participate."

The Girl Scouts are selling cookies through April 11.

Money raised is used to maintain camps and provide extra activities for the girls, and a portion goes to the individual troops, Turley said.

"Our thin-mint cookies are the third most popular cookie in the nation with Oreos in first and Chips Ahoy second," Schow said.

Schow stressed the importance of volunteering and the fact that Girl Scouts are looking for Southern student volunteers.

"We are always looking for people to inspire the girls to go on and further their education," she said.

Persons wishing to get involved should contact the Girl Scout office at 827.7. □

Pupils receive slice of Orient

By BRIN CAVAN
STAFF WRITER

She came from a school system so strict that the government chose her curriculum. Yet, with her current students, the curriculum changes as their interests progress.

Mayuka Ishii, a junior international communications major at Missouri Southern, teaches a free Japanese language class to interested elementary and junior high school students.

"I try to teach them basic stuff, but if they want to learn more, I want to teach them everything they want," she said. "It's getting more complicated, but they don't care, they just do it."

Two of her students, Lenny Brubaker and Matthew Datum, eighth graders at College Heights Christian School, would like to visit Japan. Brubaker is taking the class because "Japan is cool."

"It's free and it's fun," Datum said.

Christine and Shawn Hale's mother is from Fukuoka, Japan. Christine, a Joplin Junior High School ninth grader, and Shawn, a fifth grader at Columbia Elementary, wanted to learn Japanese because of their heritage.

It is easy to see why students respond so well to Ishii's teaching. She walks around the room, asking

each student a question, touching a shoulder, making individual contact.

She is teaching one concept, and the students start asking questions. They expand on the idea, adding to what they already know. Within a few minutes, they are not only learning *migi*, *hidari*, *ue*, and *shita* (right, left, above, and below), they are making complete sentences with these ideas.

"They always try to make sentences," Ishii said. "I can tell they are really interested."

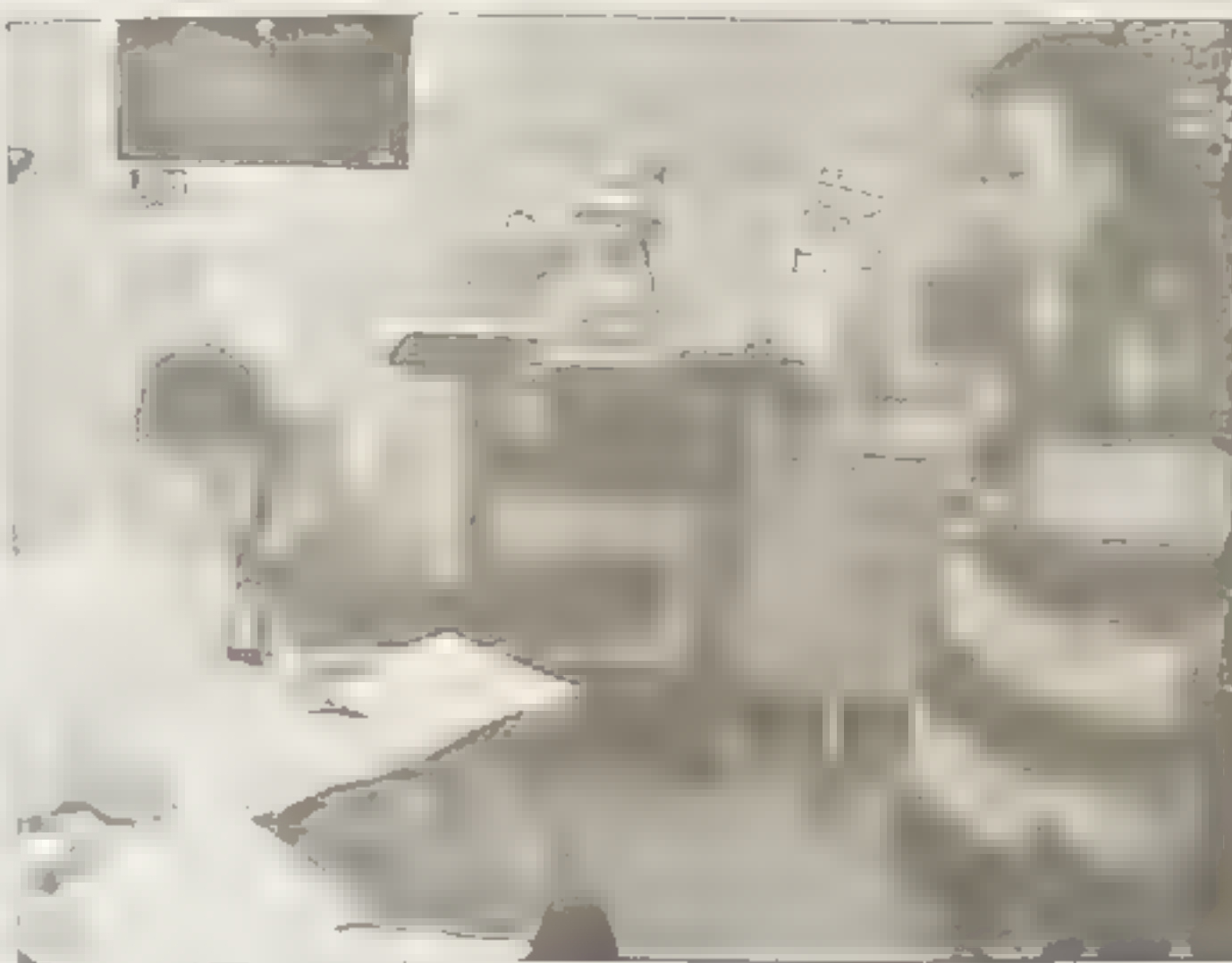
As one student works on the blackboard, another walks up without being asked and helps with a correction.

A response from a question often elicits a "good job" or "very good" from Ishii. She makes a relaxed and positive atmosphere.

Ishii, who transferred to Southern from Lamar (Colo.) Community College after receiving an associate of arts degree, is originally from Yokohama, Japan. Her anecdotes from home add a personal touch to her teaching.

"We usually try to make words shorter," Ishii said. "The last time my sister talked to me she said 'Bra Pi', not Brad Pitt."

When teaching the word *beach*, she told the students about Tokyo. She explained how the Japanese had



TIM WILSON/The Chariot

Junior international communications major, Mayuka Ishii (right) instructs a Japanese class of eighth graders from College Heights Christian School.

destroyed so much of their natural surroundings to industrialize, and now they try to make up for it with an indoor beach.

"It's sad for me, because we tear up nature and make it artificial," she said.

Ishii still struggles with some parts of the English language.

Her boyfriend, Edy Berueda, is from the Philippines. He helps Ishii with her ability to communicate effectively in English.

"I help her out with the slang words," Berueda said. "That's the biggest problem with international students. That was my first problem, too, when I came here."

Ishii complains there are "a lot of idioms, like rain, rain cats."

"You mean raining cats and dogs?" Berueda said. "The first time she heard that, she said 'Where? Where?'"

Although she misses her parents and her younger sister, Shiori, she doesn't miss the constriction of her former schools. She appreciates the ability to have "individuality and originality."

"In my country, back home, if you are different from others, they are going to pick on you," Ishii said. "Down here, nobody cares. I like it that way. I can be original."

Her originality is the ingredient that makes her Japanese language class so interesting to her students.

Christine Hale summed it up: "This class is hard core!" □

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Worldwide association fights for freedoms

Joplin chapter
joins 160 nations,
1.1 million people

By MICHAEL RASKA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Hundreds of people worldwide are imprisoned for exercising their rights of freedom of expression, association, assembly, or movement. Many are imprisoned for their involvement in political or religious activities. The local chapter of Amnesty International is helping to change these injustices.

"Amnesty International (AI) is an international program whose members try to eliminate conditions of injustice, false imprisonment, death penalty, and crimes against

people that are made by governments all around the world," said Charles Parker, a chemistry teacher at Joplin High School and the local AI chapter adviser. "Through a letter-writing campaign we try to publicize it and make people recognize that many prisoners are oppressed and sometimes killed."

The Joplin AI chapter began three years ago with local high school students. Its members belong to the 1.1-million-strong Amnesty International in more than 160 countries and territories, according to Parker.

"I think there is a lot of injustice all around the world, and I think that many people in America are ignorant about it," said Joplin High School junior Leigh-Ann Long and AI member. "If you join a group like this you can

educate yourself and feel stronger by helping to change something, and make the difference."

The information about the oppressions and false imprisonments are sent to the chapter in the form of Urgent Action Letters. These letters provide the description of the problems, list recommended actions, and provide names of people to write. They are sent from the main AI headquarters in London, Parker said.

"One of my most remembered Urgent Action Letters was about a man working for peace in Kashmir," he said. "Government people beat him up so badly that they destroyed his kidneys."

"He was in a hospital on a kidney machine, and the same group of people came and kidnapped him from the hospital. Nobody has heard

about him since then."

After receiving the Urgent Action Letters, the group responds by writing a letter to the particular government or institution. Each letter contains a recommended action; for example, criminal charges should be made in public and prisoners should have access to medical care, legal representation, and families. Last year, the Joplin AI chapter wrote 917 replies, Parker said.

"You learn a lot about the countries and the world because the reports contain a lot of background information," said Kim Dalton, Joplin AI chapter president and Joplin High School senior. "You get knowledgeable about what is going on in the world that you don't learn in the high school."

Occasionally, the group

receives replies about its letters from the governments describing the status of the situation. However, one has to be careful when accepting these, because many countries have agencies that write these letters and don't do anything about them. Therefore, the replies are sent to Denver and used as legal measures against the governments, Parker said.

"It's my hope that an exposure of something like this would make the students realize what they have and realize that there is another side out there where people don't have all this," Dalton said. "I hope that it makes the students see that in many other countries they don't have what they enjoy here and help develop some sensitivity and some courage in the future." □



66 The people of the community always respond if there is a particular need. 99



James Godfrey, sophomore criminal justice major. ■ one of many Southern students who donates blood each year on campus.
FILE PHOTO

Blood means everything to many

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When ■ comes to the Joplin area's support for charitable organizations, the American Red Cross and Community Blood Center of the Ozarks may receive the lion's share.

"We have always done very well," said Carol Kerr, director of Joplin's branch of the Red Cross. "The people of our community always respond if there is

a particular need. The people always respond."

The need for blood donors is always constant and that is why both organizations hit area high schools and colleges besides running blood centers.

However, besides the need for volunteers to be poked and pricked, the blood banks also require the services of volunteers to help run the stations. The Red Cross uses nearly 300 volunteers in some capacity during the year.

Blood donors are a pretty reliable bunch, said

Brenda Myers, charge nurse for the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks.

"We have quite a few donors that come on the day they're due to donate," she said. "It's their way of helping people out."

The donating centers operate at different hours and days, but are always willing to take on new donors.

To donate with the Red Cross, call 624-4411. To donate ■ the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks, call 782-7755. □

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Organization puts dent in poverty numbers

Group builds dreams while erecting houses

By JEFF BILLINGTON
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The war against poverty is a battle that is not easy to win, but for the past 22 years an internationally known organization has been fighting it with some success.

Habitat for Humanity has made it its mission ■ put deserving people into decent, safe, and warm homes.

"This is not a hand-out program," said Forrest Uppendahl, Joplin Area Habitat for Humanity president. "This is a hands-up program."

He said the Joplin affiliate for Habitat has been building and remodeling homes since 1989.

"We are about to complete our ninth home in Joplin," Uppendahl said.

Darla Hansen, Joplin, said she is

scheduled to receive the next Joplin Habitat home.

"They do great things," she said.

Uppendahl said Habitat receives publicity from some ■ the famous personalities and politicians who have been known ■ lend a hand to Habitat.

"People think Jimmy Carter founded Habitat or he's on the board of directors," Uppendahl said. "But he's neither. He ■ a volunteer like millions of other people around the world. A lot of people when you mention Habitat automatically think of Jimmy Carter, but there are other very prominent names that are very strong, committed supporters of Habitat."

Uppendahl said Congressman Newt Gingrich and actor Paul Newman are also avid supporters of Habitat.

Uppendahl said locally there are more than 100 people who are members of Habitat.

"We do not lack for volunteer interest," he said. "Where we have a need is

for individuals who have a little more expertise when it comes to actual building, someone who we could use as a trainer and a supervisor on our building projects."

Uppendahl said ■ good portion of the materials for the houses are donated, even the carpeting and siding at times.

"What's donated is primarily the labor," he said. "Materials we have to buy, but we get good price breaks and at cost many times."

Uppendahl said the typical Joplin house costs about \$25,000 and is sold for that amount to qualifying partners usually on a 20-year mortgage with no interest.

He said there are several qualifications a person has to meet in order to purchase a Habitat home.

"We want people who typically have an income in the neighborhood of maybe \$5,000 to \$18,000 a year," Uppendahl said. "Of course, that range depends on the number in the family.

They have to have that commitment. 'Yes I will help, I will put in sweat equity in my home.' We don't discriminate on family size whether it's just one person or if they happen to have children."

He said most partners do not quit after they have finished with their house and their sweat equity.

"We find ongoing willingness to partner," he said. "It's not just a one-time thing. They're not just in it for their house."

Hansen said ■ person gets a positive feeling from helping at Habitat.

"It makes you feel good to do something for someone else," she said.

Uppendahl said a recent donation of land will make it possible to build a Habitat homestead in Joplin where Hansen's new home will be located.

"It's essentially a square block of land that's been donated to Habitat by a local couple," he said. "We'll be able to build about six houses on that property." □

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Lions build tradition of service

Coach Turner requires players to volunteer their time to charities

By SUSIE FRISBIE

When a sports team thinks of tradition, it often points to long-time coaches or a history of victory.

Missouri Southern baseball, however, has a tradition unique to any sport — volunteerism.

The Lions have been volunteering for 15 years, and each year their volunteer efforts have grown.

"We saw the benefits of our players working with the community," said head coach Warren Turner. "It was really rewarding to see how we were helping others out."

Though their main focus in volunteering is helping others, Turner believes his players also receive a valuable experience they couldn't get through any other program.

"Not only are they helping people and getting benefit from that, but when they get a job and put on their resumes all the things they have done, the employers who go to hire them can't believe

the number of projects they've done," Turner said.

"It's helped many of our players get their foot in the door for getting a job."

Redshirt freshman first baseman Thomas Casper agrees with Turner.

"Our volunteering efforts are good not only because they help you meet a lot of people in the community, but it also looks good on your resume," he said.

The Lions participate in an average of 25 to 30 volunteer events a year, including the Children's Miracle Network, the Ronald McDonald House, the College's phonathon, and several fund-raising efforts through the Kiwanis Club.

The team also helps with several Southern-sponsored events by ushering, helping to serve at banquets, and handing out programs at football games. Turner believes their efforts have allowed them to gain recognition throughout the community.

"People have become interested in Southern baseball because of our players' involvement in the community," he said.

"People from throughout the community have been coming to the games."

Certain events stand out in the players' minds due to the recipient of their volunteer efforts.

"The peanut sales for the Kiwanis Club was my favorite because it gives



FILE PHOTO

As part of their volunteering requirements, Southern baseball players (from left) Nathan Patrick, Cory Wagner, and Kent Long clear a table at Jim Bob's after the team helped a campaign raise money for the Ronald McDonald House.

money to children's organizations," Casper said.

Senior pitcher Marcus Patton sees another benefit in the community service the team has been involved in.

"It really helps the team by allowing us to work together off the field," he said.

Turner believes team unity is created through volunteering. □

NON-PROFIT AGENCIES

Giving spirit prevails from community support

By ERIC GRUBER
STAFF WRITER

Community involvement and volunteering is on the rise, some local organizations say.

There are several volunteer agencies in the Joplin area, and some of these said volunteering is escalating. One such local agency is the Salvation Army.

"We had 1,620 volunteer hours prior on one category of community hours of some kind [last year]," said Capt. Mary Thomas of the Salvation Army. "And, this year 3,553 hours had been reported."

These numbers are of registered workers, and in just one category. There are also other volunteer hours that go unrecorded. One example is the well-known holiday bell ringers, whose volunteer time is extra of what is usually given. "Our actual numbers are more," Thomas said.

Her husband, Capt. Michael Thomas, notes extra hours and labor comes from people who call and who

aren't regular volunteers.

"Those are hours outside of our inner circle," he said.

Although the number of hours and volunteers has increased, one reason could be due to a type of need inflation. This means that although volunteers have increased, so has the need within the community. But, it is because of the need that the help is needed.

Suzanne Gilpin, executive director of the United Way of Joplin, stresses the need for volunteers to run the agency.

"We have two staff people, that's it," Gilpin said. "The work that is accomplished is accomplished by volunteers."

She said such needs include a volunteer board of directors and 600-plus volunteers during the annual United Way campaign. This campaign helps raise money to go to agencies so they can provide programs and services to their clients.

"I think here in our community people are very generous both with their

dollars and with their time," Gilpin said.

She said the United Way doesn't have a difficult time getting help for projects. They just "put the word out" and then help is available.

"I know in other parts of the country, maybe the volunteer spirit isn't as strong as it is here in our community, but I find it very strong and that people do want to help," Gilpin said.

The need for volunteers is not only evident in the community, but on campus as well. The career services office at Missouri Southern started a volunteer program called "Dare to Care" in April 1997. The program has two purposes: to encourage students to donate time to volunteer agencies, and to gain career-related experience as well as references to speak of the students' work.

"Career services got involved because we know that a lot of employers value volunteer experience from a job candidate," said Jennifer Yazell, director of career services. "And, we also know that volunteer experience

is one of the best ways for students to get related experiences in their career field."

Just the fact that Southern has started the program gives evidence to support the rise in volunteer services within the community. After its first year, 30 students have completed a combined total of more than 550 volunteer hours, with 14 more indicating an interest in the program.

"I really believe that the program is going to grow," Yazell said. "We are happy with the results that we have been able to come up with after our first year. But, I think that in the next two or three years we could double or triple it easily."

But no matter how many volunteers, there will always be a need for more help and there will always be something to do. Although volunteer help is on the rise, there is still a need. Mary Thomas summed it up for the need of people giving help and assistance.

"Without the volunteers, we wouldn't even try it," she said. □

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Students from Missouri Southern's Koinonia Campus Ministry lead prisoners in praise music during a trip to the Jefferson City Penitentiary.

SPECIAL TO THE CHART



Making a difference behind bars

Organization takes members to prison for teaching, learning

By TAMMY SPICER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Most college students would not consider spending the weekend in prison an enjoyable time. But a group of volunteers from a Missouri Southern organization do just that.

"I was really just looking for a way to get involved and make a difference," said Donna Still, senior art education major. "Being involved in the prison ministry has given me a whole new outlook on the prison system."

Still participates in the prison ministry from her involvement with Koinonia, a College religious organization.

The group has been sponsoring the project for at least ten years, said Tron Peterson, Koinonia associate campus minister.

"People have preconceived notions about the inside of prisons from movies and television shows," he said. "It is a lot different in real life."

The group ministers at the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City. The prison is often referred to as "The Wall" because of an old, tall wall built all the way around the facility.

Anywhere from six to ten people make the trip to Jefferson City about once a semester, Peterson said.

They stay the whole weekend providing services to prisoners in honors

housing and in the maximum-security unit.

The group would like to go more often, but with everyone's busy schedules, that has been impossible.

"It is like entering a totally different culture. A lot of people would be scared or nervous, but I have always felt totally safe," Still said. "I enjoy it so much I can never wait to go back."

While she used to believe in an eye for an eye punishment, she is now much more forgiving to the prisoners, and everyone else. She enjoys going on the missions so much, she has recruited her husband, Matt, a Pittsburg State University senior, to join the group on their trips.

"At first she drug me into it," he said. "I thought surely she was exaggerating about what a great experi-

ence it was. But it isn't the dirty, scary place I expected."

One of the main reasons the group travels to the facility in Jefferson City is because the prison chaplain is from Joplin and helps them make the arrangements, Peterson said.

"We would like to find something local to visit," Peterson said. "But it is really key to find someone inside the prison who can help set things up."

The trips usually consist of conducting a religious service, with fellowship, singing, praying, and just talking, much like a regular church service, Still explained.

"Everyone who goes on the trip enters with a big heart, wanting to help the prisoners," Peterson said. "Mostly though, we leave feeling like we have gotten much more than we gave." □

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Ministries spread hope during break

By ERIC GRUBER
STAFF WRITER

For nearly 60 Missouri Southern students, spring break was more than just a chance to get away and have a good time.

Two campus religious groups, the Baptist Student Union (BSU) and Koinonia Christian Campus Ministry, shared their faith on their annual spring break mission trips.

The BSU traveled to Daytona Beach, Fla., March 20-28 for a mission activity titled "beach reach."

"There's about 80,000 spring breakers in Daytona," said Victor Boll, BSU director.

"Beach reach is where BSU goes into Daytona for this mass evangelism."

Boll said the outreach involved projects designed to

reach out to visiting beach goers.

These included volleyball games, and even a sunburn unit to give out free sunburn medication. A free pancake feed every morning brought in countless spring breakers.

"They ate the free pancakes and then we set around and shared the Gospel with them in a non-threatening way," Boll said.

From Southern's BSU, there were 17 students who went to Daytona Beach. There were a total of 260 BSU students from Kentucky, Indiana, Georgia, and Missouri.

The ministry wasn't limited to the beach. Through "street witnessing," students could share their faith with people on the street.

"There were 42 total salvations for that one week," Boll said. "That was the highlight."



LAURA WILHELM/Special To The CHART

Missouri Southern students Nathan Moss (left) and Nathan Dawson work together making benches for a church in Saltillo, Mexico, during a Koinonia spring break missionary trip.

It was exciting to see that."

The Koinonia Christian Campus Ministry traveled with 41 students and support staff to Saltillo, Mexico. They stayed in Saltillo for three and a half days, but were sidetracked to Laredo, Texas, for a day and a half.

"There were some frustrations trying to get the bus across the border," said David Weaver, Koinonia director.

But even through the difficulties, the trip still proved to be a worthwhile experience. Weaver said this trip was different because Koinonia usually takes about 12 students, but this year 41 went.

The group helped put water storage facilities on top of houses and installed pumps. They also helped make benches for the church where the group stayed.

"I think the main purpose of going down was to understand more culture," he said.

"From a religious standpoint it was interesting to hear people teaching Bible lessons in another language."

Although the trip was tiring and in a different element, Weaver said it was productive.

"It was a challenge. Going into a foreign country is different." □

HEROISM FOR FREE



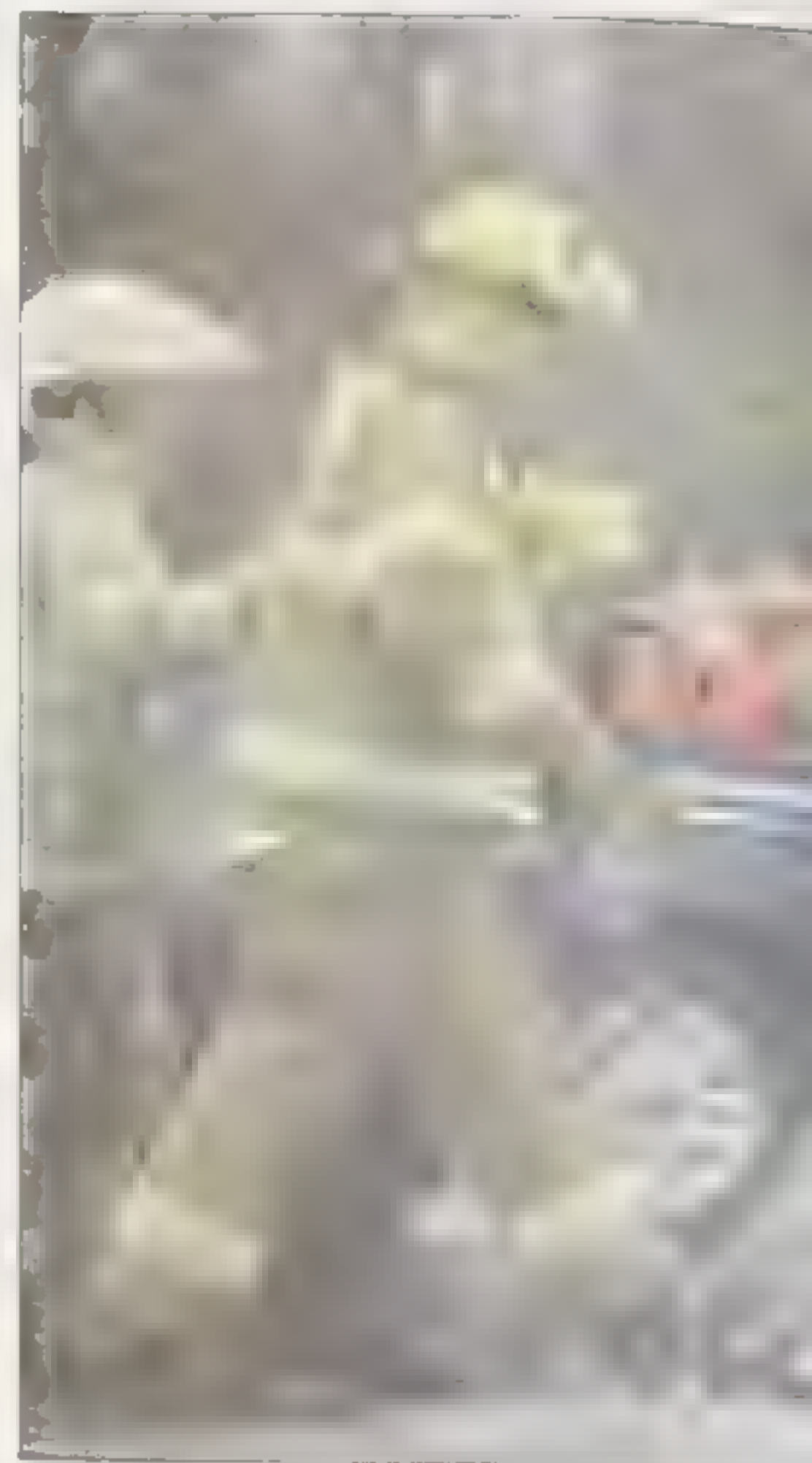
TIM WILSON/The Chieftain

Redings Mill volunteer firefighters arrive at the scene of an overturned Bronco on I-44 March 27. The firefighters worked for several minutes before they decided to cut the driver, Tommy Reed, out of the vehicle. Reed was not seriously injured in the crash.



TIM WILSON/The Chieftain

Tommy Reed was trapped in his overturned car and Redings Mill volunteer firefighters discuss the course of action they will follow to extract him from the crashed Bronco.



After being pulled from the wreckage of his 1985 Ford Bronco.



Danger lurks for volunteer firefi

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Availability is a key element of effective volunteering, especially in the work that Mike Bailey does.

He never knows how many hours a week he may serve, or even what time of the day or night he may be needed.

Bailey, a senior criminal justice major, donates his time to the Redings Mill Volunteer Fire Department. His experiences since he started two years ago have had a dramatic influence in his life and may even sway his career plans.

"Before I started doing this, I never thought of myself as firefighter material," he said. "And I wasn't. But I'm a completely different person than I was two years ago."

Bailey believes his experiences have made him stronger and more confident.

To become a volunteer firefighter, Bailey filled out an

application and attended weekly meetings where he learned the ropes from experienced firefighters. Following an approval vote from the department, Bailey served a six-month probationary period and then was confirmed by a second vote.

"I also went through the first responder training class at Southern," he said. "You have to have that certification in order to respond to medical calls, and about 75 percent of our calls are medical."

One of the lessons Bailey learned was how to handle the adrenaline rush of each call.

"You get called out to a fire and your mind instantly turns to poop," he said. "You have to be careful and not let the adrenaline take control; you have to use your head."

Bailey enjoys playing the role of the rescuer, but has had to learn to cope with situations beyond his control.

"Last summer I worked my first fatality accident," he said. "A 16-year-old boy burned to death in a truck, and I

had to help put him in the body bag. You learn how to think about it at the time. You learn how to move on."

Bailey said he receives plenty of support from the experienced firefighters in his department. "They will be there to listen if he ever goes through a traumatic situation."

On the lighter side, one of his most memorable moments was one where he traded his fire fighting gear for a suit with white trim. He played Santa Claus at the Start group of children.

"I like working with the community. I really enjoy working with kids," he said.

Bailey said he has considered taking the training offered at Missouri Southern, but doesn't make a career out of it, he definitely plans to continue his work as a volunteer.

"It's awesome when you can save a life or help somebody in a medical emergency," he said. "It's the best feeling in the world."



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of GLORY

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TIM WILSON/The Chari

Volunteer firefighters worked for 20 minutes to cut Tommy Reed from his Bronco.

GREEK CHARITIES

Fraternities, sororities face charity challenges

By BETH HAMILTON
STAFF WRITER

While some people may not be involved in any acts of philanthropy, the Greek organizations volunteer for several functions throughout the year.

Each fraternity and sorority has a national philanthropy that it contributes time and money to each year, in addition to other acts of volunteerism. Missouri Southern has four Greek organizations: Kappa Alpha, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Sigma Pi, and Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Every KA chapter's main philanthropy is the Muscular Dystrophy Association," said Donnie Greenlee, senior mathematics major and KA president.

He said his fraternity has sponsored a basketball tournament for the past two years to raise money for MDA. This year, a fund-raiser at Pizza Hut is planned. And every year that the Southern football team plays at Pittsburg State University, KA relays the game ball from campus to PSU.

KA also volunteers with Adopt-A-Highway and will participate in an American Cancer Society walk in

Camden. "We're trying to give back to the community," Greenlee said. "Another reason is that there's a major stereotype of what fraternities and sororities are. It's not so much that we're trying to break out of that stereotype, but we want to let the community know we really care."

Amber Irwin, senior nursing major, is president of Alpha Sigma Alpha.

"We have four aims: intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual," she said. "Doing volunteer work can help you with the spiritual. It's to make us more well-rounded."

Alpha Sigma Alpha's particular national philanthropy is the F. Gene Smith Center, a center for children with disabilities. It also donates to the Ronald McDonald Foundation, sponsors a member in the chapter who will bike ride for an AIDS benefit, and "adopts" a family at Christmas.

"A lot of people don't get the chance to do volunteer work because they don't realize it's out there and they can contribute to it," Irwin said. "People need to realize there are things they can do to help people in need."

The Sigma Pi's help out with the Multiple Sclerosis walk and team up with the Joplin Jaycees with their haunted house and the Joplin Fraternal Order of Police for Joplin High School's Project Graduation.



I hope the Greeks are seen as just more than party animals. We do have fun, but we really believe in supporting the community.

Brandon Fuhr
Sigma Pi president

Brandon Fuhr, junior marketing major and president, said they will try to do more things in conjunction with the Joplin Jaycees.

"We make it mandatory that we do at least one community service project a semester," he said. "I hope the Greeks are seen as more than just party animals. We do have fun, but we really believe in supporting the community."

Zeta Tau Alpha concentrates on the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Foundation.

"We usually try to do one big fund-raiser for it," said Amy Williams, junior early childhood education major and ZTA president. "And, we may do some small fund-raisers throughout the year. That's one of the most important things that we do."

Zeta also participates in the March of Dimes Walk, and through Adopt-A-Highway, grooms Newman Road.

"There are little things we do in Zeta that are outside of volunteerism, but it is quite a bit of what we do," Williams said. "We'd like to get more involved in doing things for the community rather than just our national philanthropy."

The College's Greek organizations as a whole also participate in the Special Olympics, the Children's Miracle Network, and Safe Halloween for Kids, and conduct an Easter egg hunt for the children of faculty and staff members at Southern.

"We helped alumni stuff envelopes one year," Greenlee said. "We've also tried to help pick up litter on campus."

"Something else that getting out and volunteering does is create bonds within the group, and as a whole it does bond the Greek community."

Groups join forces to feed poor

By KIKI COFFMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

To serve as a stepping stone, the Jasper County Coalition for Food formed four years ago, creating a new collaborative organization joining 15 agencies in a united front on hunger. But it took almost two and a half years for the organization to witness results and discover the advantages to a unified charity network.

"For a long time [Salvation Army, Soul's Harbor, and other non-profit organizations] couldn't get together and it was a shame really, because we pretty much wanted the same things to help the people who really needed it," said Brother Dwight Watts, resident director at Soul's Harbor.

"But it's been really good to see the way things have come together, the way the coalition has shaped up lately," Watts said.

Agencies in the quest to help feed those less fortunate include: Boys

and Girls Club of Joplin, the Byers Avenue United Methodist Church, Crosslines ■ Joplin, Carthage Crosslines, Economic Security Corporation, DARE House, Jasper County Support Services, Joplin Family Worship Center, Lafayette House, Ozark Food Harvest, Salvation Army, Soul's Harbor, Tri-County Cerebral Palsy Center, United Way of Carthage, and United Way of Joplin.

The coalition organizes the variety of tasks that used to rely on almost every group within ■. The tasks include picking up food and delivering it, organizing fund-raisers, and developing ideas.

"If a large company doesn't know what to do or how to distribute a large donation, they can call the coalition, a collection of area pantries, and the coalition can tell them the best way ■ distribute among our area agencies," said Capt. Michael Thomas of the Salvation Army.

The coalition aims to help organiza-

tions by not spending too much time on one effort and not enough time on other equally important ones.

"We're trying to get away from replication so that when we do something one of the other groups does something else. It's working out really well," Watts said.

Watts said he has seen a 5 ■ ■ percent increase in volunteerism; a rise he attributes to involvement in church.

"People come by to volunteer through churches, probably about 50 percent," he said.

Thomas added, "our volunteer involvement has shot up a lot since Thanksgiving of last year."

Thomas and Watts said the volunteer rise was important because of the necessity of volunteers in non-profit organizations.

"All of our things at Soul's Harbor comes from volunteers or from donations," Watts said. "It took the Salvation Army a million dollars to do what volunteers have done for us."

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We're trying to get away from replication so that when we do something one of the other groups does something else.

Brother Dwight Watts
Resident director at
Soul's Harbor

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We've had renovations, new curtains, repair work done, all from volunteers. It's people donating their time, work, or money to help other people."

"Volunteers are important to us," Thomas said. "Even after a million dollars, or less, we still need volunteers ■ help." ▽

PEACE CORPS

Merriam's travels give perspective of world

Peace Corps stint molds instructor

By BRIN CAVAN
STAFF WRITER

One year after completing his bachelor's degree, a Missouri Southern instructor accepted a two-year teaching position where he couldn't have a car, refrigerator, phone, or hot-running water.

Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications, joined the U.S. Peace Corps ■ age 23 and was sent to Kabul, Afghanistan. He taught English at Habibia High School for boys in grades 7 through 12.

"I wanted to travel, see the world, plus serve my country and contribute something positive to humanity," Merriam said. "The Peace Corps seemed a good way to achieve ■ those things at once."

His four-room stucco house had electricity and a flush toilet, which were regarded as luxuries at the time. But he lived without many items most consider essential. He traveled the mile to school on a bicycle — the only transportation he owned.

"I didn't really miss those things very much," he said. "It's amazing how you can adapt to a simpler life."

His main assignment, as a teacher of English as a second language, gave him students who were enthusiastic and interested in learning. When he walked into the room, they would stand and remain that way until told to sit down. ■ gave him a different cultural perspective, especially on freedoms often taken for granted.

"They were quite impressed that I was able to criticize my government," Merriam said. "If I wanted to say something negative about my president, I could do that. Whereas, they didn't feel that freedom of speech in their country."

The Islamic religion requires its followers ■ face the holy city of Mecca, kneel on their prayer mats and pray five times a day. Merriam said he would be riding on the bus when prayer-time came, and the bus stopped so everyone could get off and pray.

"It's really educational to live in another culture, learn their language, and try to live with the people on their level," he said.

Afghanistan became a Communist country in 1979. Living there ■ the early 60s, Merriam did not believe it could happen, even though

Afghanistan and the Soviet Union shared boundaries.

"The one thing I always thought would keep Afghanistan from going Communist was the strong religious influence of Islam," he said. "Belief in God is a major part of their whole way of life. I thought any system that tried ■ promote atheism would not go over very well."

Other than one not for democracy in which two students were killed, Merriam's tenure in the Peace Corps was relatively calm and peaceful.

"This was still a period of a lot of idealism and enthusiasm and trying to improve the world and help the developing nations," he said.

Patti Madigan, public affairs specialist with the Peace Corps, said that idealistic view is the key ingredient for making a good volunteer and returned volunteer.

"We call them returned and not former volunteers, because they come back and they continue to serve," she said. "More than 75 percent continue to serve in some capacity."

Madigan said the Peace Corps has three main goals: "To help people of international countries meet their needs for trained men and women; to help promote a better



SPECIAL TO THE CHAIR

Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications, reflects on his Peace Corps memories with nothing but fondness.

understanding of Americans on the part of the people served; and to help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans."

Merriam achieved all of these goals and more. During his stay, he vacationed for six weeks in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Thailand. He also made brief stops in ■ other countries, including Iran, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Germany, and Great Britain. More than anything, Peace

Corps volunteers believe they can help make a difference in other's lives.

"Volunteers generally have to care a lot about other people," Madigan said. "If you don't care or don't have a commitment to serve, it could be a long two years. You have to feel strongly that you have a contribution to make."

"It makes life more rewarding ■ contribute to some cause that's bigger than yourself," Merriam said. "It gives extra meaning to life." ▽



Foreign students find host families

By JEFF BILLINGTON
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The fear of being a stranger in a new land is something most international students are forced to deal with upon arriving in the United States.

But thanks to the involvement of American households as host families, this scary transition is made much softer.

Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center at Missouri Southern, said host families take on this responsibility without any compensation except for the gratitude and knowledge they receive from students in return for their kindness and generosity. She said even though the rewards are purely emotional and intellectual, the numbers of host families appear to be increasing.

"I have several Americans who approach me and say that if any international students need host families or a place to vacation or if they would like

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I wouldn't be here without them. I wouldn't have a place to live.

Alexandra Pavlova
Junior graphic design major

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to share their free time or participate in their Thanksgiving or over Christmas break, they'd be glad to host them," Karmanova said.

"I have several people who have contacted me for that, so there is an interest there."

She also said most Missouri Southern students who live with host families have been with them since they were in high school.

"Most host families are hosting students who came to study in high school," Karmanova said. "They live with the host families, and then on many occasions they continue living with those host families. They develop very good relationships and they sometimes become even better sons and daughters."

Alexandra Pavlova, junior graphic design major, said some host families give a great deal of support, both emotional and financial, to their international students.

"It's great that some of the people open their homes and hearts," she said. "It's not easy, and it costs them a lot and they put a lot of time and effort into it. It's great."

"They let strangers into their house and they try their best. They see we need something and they go and help us and they do what they can."

Pavlova, who originates from the Czech Republic, is staying with Cecilia Morris, dean of students at Crowder College.

"She saw that I was looking for living conditions in Joplin and I was going to school," Pavlova said. "So, she said, 'You don't have anywhere to live and I have a spare room, so why don't you come live with me.'"



SPECIAL TO THE CHART
International student Alexandra Pavlova (right) poses with her host mother Cecilia Morris while touring through Washington, D.C.'s Chinatown district.

Karmanova said some host families go out of their way to give international students basic needs.

"I talked to one remarkable woman, Mary Bradford, who is a host for probably five students right now," she said.

"I admire her greatly. She said she never looked at it with a melodramatic approach, that she just understands that they all have basic needs and she's trying to satisfy those needs."

Pavlova said international students owe their host families much for everything they do.

"I wouldn't be here without them," she said. "I wouldn't have a place to live." □

JOPLIN JAYCEES

Organization offers leadership development

Group stresses importance of individual goals

By MARILYN TAFT
STAFF WRITER

While building leadership qualities, the not-for-profit Joplin Jaycees serves the community and its members.

"Basically, what we are is a young persons' organization who develops leadership through community service," said Carl Kendrick, Joplin Jaycees president and member for almost 11 years.

The national organization is called U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce and was formed in 1920. It is not connected with any city's chamber of commerce.

Kendrick said the goal of the Jaycees,

besides helping the community, is to strive to make the individual member become a better person and a better leader.

"A lot of politicians were Jaycees like George Bush and President Clinton," Kendrick said.

Young adults between the ages of 21 through 39 are eligible to become members of the Jaycees. Leadership skills are developed through selecting, planning, organizing, and active participation in their charity fund-raisers. Members may work on annual events or dream up their own fund-raising ideas.

"One of my first projects was called

the Truly Tasteless Movie Marathon," Kendrick said.

He said participants were paid to get out of the movies instead of getting into them. He first submitted his idea to the Jaycees board of directors. After the board approved his idea, he provided the guidance he needed to organize the event from beginning to end.

"I like knowing I'm helping others," said Marta Kovacsosky, secretary of the Institute of International Studies at Missouri Southern.

Kovacsosky enjoys choosing which and how many fund-raisers she works. There's no pressure, she says.

Some of the projects the Joplin Jaycees have participated in include a Halloween spookhouse, where the

money pays for an underprivileged children's shopping spree; Lock-up for MDA; Bowl-A-Thon for Big Brothers Big Sisters; and a penny harvest where Jaycees collect pennies. The Joplin Jaycees also make sandwiches for the Special Olympics.

"The Great Bologna Fling is what we call it; it's a tongue-in-cheek name we came up with," Kendrick said.

The Jaycees solicit the food items donated and then volunteer their time putting the lunches together.

The Joplin Jaycees help individuals as well as organizations.

"We dabble in a little bit of everything," Kendrick said. "We're not like other organizations that have just one thing that they do." □



Internships provide learning experience

Students find charity work valuable

By MARLA HINKLE
STAFF WRITER

Donating time without compensation of any kind is a great satisfaction and make the lives of those in need better.

Among the benefits enjoyed by volunteers are valuable experience, meeting people and establishing contacts, and gaining the wonderful feeling of helping others and making a difference in the community.

Sandy Morgan, executive director of Children's Miracle Network, believes there are many opportunities for those interested in volunteer work.

"Our interns really seem to be enthusiastic about the work they do here," she said. "The experience they gain is invaluable in helping them with other careers they wish to pursue."

Melissa Harmon, a 1997

graduate of Southern, enjoyed her internship so well that she is now working at Children's Miracle Network on a permanent basis.

"I really enjoy working with the children and seeing the rewards of the fund-raising going to benefit them," Harmon said.

She said some of the duties of an intern are various fund-raisers to raise money on a local level. The money goes to help area children with medical problems and people who cannot gain access to medical facilities.

"Volunteering is a great opportunity because it's been a valuable experience beyond money," Harmon said. "It also has provided a network of a wide variety of people and helped me make new friends."

Robin McAllister, senior communications major, is looking forward to her internship at Children's Miracle

Network in June and July.

"I am excited about the internship," she said. "It will be a great opportunity to work with the kids and learn valuable work experience. I hope to get into non-profit work and public relations after graduation and this internship will provide contacts with other organizations."

The United Way of Joplin also offers internships, said Suzanne Gilpin, executive director.

"Our internship will offer a chance to work with community volunteers to look at area needs," she said.

According to Gilpin, another important area of work is the evaluation of agencies. United Way currently evaluates 19 agencies, such as Lafayette House, American Red Cross, and Joplin Association for the Blind.

The United Way determines which agencies need funding and then allocates the funds to those in need.



JASON POSTER/The Chan

After her internship at Children's Miracle Network, Melissa Harmon (left) began work at the Network on a permanent basis.

Gilpin believes volunteers have much to gain from doing an internship at the Children's Miracle Network. "Volunteer work makes one

feel that they can make a difference in the community, and by doing so makes them feel proud of themselves," she said. □

UNITED WAY

Southern lends aid to United Way fund raising

Faculty and students show their support via volunteer efforts

By MICHAEL RASKA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Students and faculty at Missouri Southern know how valuable volunteer service can be to the community as well as to them personally.

Campus organizations have long helped to support volunteer projects in cooperation with the United Way.

"There are many different ways where Missouri Southern is linked to us and where they are helping us," said Suzanne Gilpin, executive director of the United Way of Joplin. "Missouri Southern has always been involved in fund-raising campaigns and volunteer projects that helped the United Way agencies."

In the last five years Southern has won five Gold Awards for participating in fund-raising campaigns for the United Way.

To win a Gold Award, an organization must have at least 75 percent

participation and its average gift should be \$40, Gilpin said.

"We have faculty, staff, students, and student organizations raising dollars for us," she said.

"For example, the criminal justice department makes a shrimp feed every year where they take donations at the beginning of the lunch and all the profits go to the United Way."

The employees of the College also help contribute to the campaigns through payroll deduction, individual gifts, and a silent auction.

Last year's contributions from the faculty in addition to the criminal justice shrimp feed and the silent auction totaled \$14,456, according to Jennifer Yazell, director of career services.

"By giving the donations to the United Way we make the money go further," Yazell said.

"The United Way serves as an umbrella organization that supports so many charities, services, and organizations where our contributions can go."

There are 19 programs and services supported directly by the United Way of Joplin, including the

American Red Cross, Joplin Family Y, and the Salvation Army.

Students and campus organizations at Southern also help the United Way by giving their time for volunteer projects through the Dare to Care program.

"The Dare to Care is a volunteer program that gives MSSC students a chance to make a difference in their community while gaining valuable career skills," Yazell explained. "It encourages all Missouri Southern students to volunteer their time with United Way agencies in order to get career-related experience while helping others."

Since the fall of 1997 when the program started, 54 students have indicated an interest in volunteering. A total of 550 hours have been worked in various volunteer capacities.

Other links to the United Way include individual campus organizations helping with various projects throughout the year.

For example, KGCS-LP promotes and helps the United Way by dubbing videotapes.

Koinonia and Southern athletes sponsor a Christmas party every year for the children of the Boys

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We have faculty, staff, students, and student organizations raising dollars for us.

Suzanne Gilpin
United Way
executive director

and Girls Club and Joplin Family Y. Graphic arts students do face paintings at football games and donate all their profits to the United Way.

"The College has always participated with the United Way," Yazell said.

"Our goal is not only for the students to understand the value of community service, but also help them gain work-related experience." □

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'Bigs' provide role models for youth

By HEATHER OWENS
STAFF WRITER

Striving to make a difference in a child's life is a main goal of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization (BBBS).

Studies have shown that when children are involved with a mentor program such as Big Brothers and Big Sisters, they are less likely to use illegal drugs, less likely to abuse alcohol, less likely to skip school, and less likely to fight, said Mark Kimball, executive director.

Children appear to be more confident in their performance at school and their relationships with their family strengthen, Kimball said.

"We try to prevent kids from getting into trouble and improve their relationship with their family," he said.

Wes Braman is on the board of directors and was a Little Brother about 20 years ago in a Kansas City program.

"I remember going to basketball games, playing miniature golf, doing homework, and just goofing off," he said.

"I realized the many opportunities out there; it gives you the hope that you could be someone. That's what the mentoring program does."

BBBS hosts a fund-raiser called Bowl For Kids' Sake, which brought in \$20,000 last year. This bowling activity allows members of the community to get involved, Kimball said.

Bowl For Kids' Sake is set for June 6 and everyone is welcome.

"You can get together with friends, get pledges, and come out and have a good time," Kimball said. "We have food, entertainment, and door prizes."

There is a kick-off meeting for Bowl For Kids' Sake from 5 to 6 p.m. on April 30 at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

The most difficult part about making a match is finding a dedicated person to fill the important position of being a Big Brother or Big Sister, Kimball said.

"It's hard for me to find volunteers," he said. "We



Jason Nunnally likes to horse around with his "Big Brother," Matt Lewis. Currently the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program has about 40 children, mostly boys, waiting to be matched with an adult.

have about 40 kids who need Bigs, and nine out of 10 are boys."

Matches are made based on the needs of the child and the interests of the volunteer, Kimball said.

"I do all of the interviewing, both kids and volunteers, and we look at interests, personalities, and proximities," he said. "We also ask parents and guardians what their preferences are."

Braman said he will never forget his experiences as a Little Brother.

"You build lasting relationships," he said. "I still know my 'Big' to this day."

The process of becoming a 'Big' is relatively simple.

"We do careful screening; we want to make sure the volunteers are safe," Kimball said.

One must attend an orientation, complete an application, and complete an interview with a case manager.

Kimball encourages Missouri Southern students to become a Big Brother or a Big Sister. The BBBS organization may be contacted by calling 626-9BIG.

"It seems college kids are very reliable and they have so much energy," he said. "We don't ask volunteers to change their lifestyle, just include a child in it." □

SPECIAL TO THE CHART

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Stream Team guards purity of local waterways

More than 20,000
volunteers collect
trash along streams

By JALYN HIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

Every day someone somewhere dumps trash into a river or stream.

"Unfortunately, I think streams and gullies are seen as places to dump things," said Sherry Fischer, Stream Team biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Guy Thomas, program manager for the Institute for Procurement Assistance at Missouri Southern, has always helped clean up streams. About six years ago he became involved with the Missouri Department of Conservation and the

Missouri Stream Team Program.

"Many of us are growing weary of picking up other people's trash," Thomas said. "We wish that folks would just accept responsibility for their own garbage."

Thomas heads clean-up crews working on about 10 miles of Shoal Creek. Approximately 55 miles long, Shoal Creek starts in Pioneer, Mo., flowing through Neosho and Joplin and into Galena, Kan.

Living on Shoal Creek allows Thomas to patrol the waterway from above the Tipton Ford bridge to the Redings Mill bridge.

"It's a beautiful little stream," he said. "It's got good wildlife habitat, lots of wildlife, and lots of gravel bars."

Volunteers gather with Thomas and work on foot and in canoes several times a year. Although he believes the number of people doesn't mea-

sure success, he never has any problem finding volunteers. He believes "there's always room for one more."

There are 1,090 Stream Teams currently active in Missouri, according to Fischer.

"It's really a way for people who aren't exactly experts to get involved and make a difference," she said.

Fischer also credits all of the success of the Missouri Stream Team Program to the volunteers. There are more than 20,000 volunteers currently active in the program.

The program was started in 1989 when the first team signed on. Last fall, team 1,000 signed on.

"Get interested and get involved," Thomas said. "I think everyone should have a little sweat equity in their own country."

Students interested in organizing their own spring clean-up or helping with one in their area may contact the

"I think everyone should have a little sweat equity in their own country."

Guy Thomas
Program manager

Missouri Department of Conservation at 573-751-4115.

"It belongs to all of us, and it's not up to just a select group to take care of it," Thomas said. "I'd like to see everyone doing a little bit to give something back." □

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HORSES OF HOPE

Disabled find friendships in stable

Program links volunteers, horses with disabled adults and young people

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Maggie utters an affectionate call, answering the students' chatter as they enter the metal building.

Like many of the volunteers at Horses of Hope, Maggie, a 22-year-old quarter horse, has a special interest in her charges.

The facility provides therapeutic riding for mentally and physically challenged youth and adults near Baxter Springs, Kan. Program director Shelly McColm co-founded the program with Valerie Sweeton, instructor and trainer.

"We just kind of decided maybe what we needed to do, in focus on with our horses and our skills and our talents, is to try to help persons with disabilities by using horses," McColm said.

After attending a training session, volunteers assist riders with grooming and support them while circling the indoor arena.

"What we look for is, No. 1, people who have a little bit of time to give," McColm said. "We like for people to be able to commit in at least one hour a week for 10 weeks. Many of our clients get used to the same person, and that's helpful to them because that makes this environment more stable."

Non-horse personnel, or those individuals who refuse to go near a 1,000-pound animal, build the barn, do mailings, and help with clerical and fund-raising activities.

"We can't run without excellent volunteers and we can't run without excellent horses," McColm said. "If we don't have those two things, we can't operate."

"No, Andre," Sweeton said. "Hold on to the reins."



GINNY DUMOND/The Chariot

Volunteers at Riverton's Horses for Hope stable lead Baldy, a draft horse and pony mix, around with Andre Webber atop. The organization provides therapeutic riding for mentally and physically challenged individuals.

This is Andre Webber's first time in the saddle aboard Baldy, a draft horse and pony mix. The 11 to 12 horses selected for the program possess an easy-going attitude.

A ramp leads riders from their limitations to a new freedom. Seated on the ramp, Sweeton patiently coaxed a suspicious Sarah Smittle, the second rider of the morning, to touch Maggie's head which almost rests in the trainer's lap.

Some 50 to 60 volunteers range from age 10 to senior citizens. "Community folks who are just interested in the program and neighbors who live in the area who have watched this grow from the ground up" is how McColm describes the majority of the volunteers.

"It also brings hope to these volunteers and anybody who helps with the program, because, even if you are out here building on the barn or over there helping with the horse, you still see that what you are doing is helping someone," McColm said.

Area middle and high school students who experience challenges, like learning disabilities and behavior disorders, volunteer on Fridays. These students are not necessarily "the average student chosen to volunteer."

Alicia Lewis, a seventh grader from Columbus (Kan.) Middle School, enjoys her job.

"I like horses and have one, and I like to teach the riders," she said.

Tammy Burton, a paraprofessional

aide and bus driver from Columbus, transports three students every Friday. She said the students not only learn how to care for a horse but receive other benefits.

"They really enjoy coming each week and learn as much from the experience as the riders do," she said.

McColm said students are so eager to volunteer they rotate the schedule.

Horses of Hope is in the two-year process of being certified by the National American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Inc. Persons interested or desiring to become a volunteer may contact McColm or Sweeton at 316-674-3458. □

KSNF-TV

Station provides visibility for charitable groups

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

When it comes to raising money, many charitable organizations find television to be a valuable resource.

At one local station, staff and management see their volunteer work as one of the most rewarding aspects of the job.

KSNF-TV, Channel 16, Joplin, is required to spend an allotment of its broadcast day rotating public service broadcasts.

"Our newscasts are part of that," said Paul Wise, general manager. "That's obviously a service to the public. We broadcast two and a half

hours of news a day. We also run a number of 30-second spots for various organizations, ranging from the Red Cross to the Salvation Army to other public organizations. Those are spots that call attention to their need for funding of their activities."

The station's newscasters are involved with the Children's Miracle Network. Last year's telethon, put on by the station, raised more than \$400,000 for the organization.

Wise said Shari Sanders, news co-anchor, works with several local organizations.

"She's very visible in the marketplace," Wise said. "This year she will be the emcee for the 'Relay for Life' fund-raiser for the American Cancer

Society. She was also chairman, last year, of 'Regatta,' a fund-raiser for breast cancer awareness for Freeman Hospital.

"We also push the agenda of the city. We really want to help Joplin grow and develop new jobs and businesses and things of that nature and also get involved with things that maybe need correcting in Joplin. We pay pretty close attention to environmental concerns and things of that nature."

All the on-air personalities get involved with different volunteer activities in the community.

Sam Lane, meteorologist, has talked to senior citizens, schools, and children's groups, but Sanders is proba-

bly the most visible KSNF employee.

"I just love to be able to help," Sanders said. "It's kind of therapy, to be able to make an impact on other people's lives, and to think they'll go away the better for it. Because if they do, I do."

She said the best way to get involved in volunteering for community organizations is to let them know you're interested.

"Get your name out there," Sanders said. "Call the organization and say 'This is my name. I'd like to help out.'"

"With me being the media, people usually call me. Some people might be afraid to call thinking that I'm so busy I wouldn't have time, but I can always make time." □



Gabrielle Lett, sophomore sociology major, began spending time with Mildred Roberts at the Spring River Christian Village as a part of her Sociology of Aging course. Lett's experience has prompted her to continue her visits to the Joplin nursing home when the class ends in May.

LAFAYETTE HOUSE

Volunteers, private donations equal success

By KIKI COFFMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

At Lafayette House, a center for abused women and children, volunteers are not only crucial but necessary to continue to help victims of domestic abuse and violence.

"If we didn't have people out there volunteering to keep our shelter up and people who care enough to donate items, we probably wouldn't be a not-for-profit organization," said Amy Good, volunteer coordinator at Lafayette House.

Good is right. Because Lafayette House doesn't use state or federal funding but private donations and grants, volunteers offering extra assistance are necessary.

Without their help, the organization wouldn't be able to maintain an effective program and offer refuge to the abused women who turn to Lafayette House for help.

"Volunteer work is crucial to help with all the maintenance and counseling and various other things that need attention at the facility," Good said. "In my eyes, if I don't get volunteers, that means I have to do it all. These women need a lot of help and there are a lot of them out there, so volunteering is very, very, very important."

Volunteering demands time, and time is precious to many fast-paced people who would like to help

but are more afraid of the advancing hands on their watches.

"Volunteering demands a lot of time," Good said. "But you would be surprised at how rewarding volunteering is."

"You like to think that it wouldn't happen, but one day it may be you who was victimized by domestic violence. Wouldn't you want to know that someone was there to help?"

Good is often continually busy throughout the day.

"I get calls from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and someone else gets calls from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., and it goes on and on, not just with the phones, but with everything," she said. "There is a lot of work to do, always, and fortunately I get to work with the people who want to help out."

Lafayette House has 15 emergency room advocates and additional volunteers who call when they have time to offer assistance.

"We get a lot of volunteers who want to donate items and that type of thing, but there are other types of volunteer work that are very detailed and demand a lot more of their time," Good said.

"I was surprised at how much [volunteering] did for me. It really made me feel like I was doing something special," said Kari Puffett, a Lafayette House volunteer. Puffett and her mother visit the organization several times each month to help out

— Bridging the Gap —

Lett builds relationships with all age groups

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

Taking time out in the day to visit a complete stranger, especially someone from a completely different generation, can be difficult or even frightening. But for Gabrielle Lett, the rewards are endless.

"I enjoy getting to know people, whether they are young or old," the sophomore sociology major said. "It feels good to do something for them, and it's also a good way to get to know people."

Lett doesn't volunteer her time to just one organization, but two. She spends a few hours each week with a senior citizen at the Spring River Christian Village in Joplin and spends time teaching children about the environment at the Boys' and Girls' Club of Joplin.

Her time at the local nursing home began as a requirement for a class. As part of a project for Sociology of Aging, Lett was asked to volunteer a few hours each week to spend with an older person and write her experiences in a journal.

Lett has done similar work in the past, through youth groups and other religious organizations. But she said she probably would not have chosen a one-on-one setting if it were not for the class. Her newly developed relationship with Mildred Roberts has prompted her to extend the friendship after her class is done.

"I like the one-to-one setting better, it gives us more of an actual relationship," she said. "She told me once how much she appreciates me. She's always excited when I come in; that always makes me feel good to know I'm bringing happiness to someone."

According to Dr. Richard Miller, professor of sociology, Lett's response to the project is not uncommon.

"This almost always does happen," Miller said. "Almost half of the students do continue to do it (extend the visits). That wasn't our intent at first, but it has evolved into this. Originally we just wanted to have them get exposure and learn about older persons. It has been pleasant to have this evolve."

"Some have even chosen to continue the visits after graduation. One former student had a child and decided to bring the baby in to meet the older friend."

As a part of The Ultimate Journey program at the Boys' and Girls' Club, Lett uses activities to teach third and fourth graders the importance of protecting the environment.

Again the program is only temporary, but Lett plans to continue volunteering her time.

Lett said she encourages others to offer their time as volunteers.

"I try to emphasize the importance of making a difference to other people," she said. "Really making an impact in someone else's life is more important than we realize. And the reward — you always go away feeling good." □

"I was surprised at how much [volunteering] did for me. It really made me feel like I was doing something special."

Kari Puffett
Lafayette House volunteer

and support women seeking help.

Good and Puffett seem to share beliefs about the benefits received after helping another person.

"You would be surprised at how good it feels to know that you helped encourage this woman to go into counseling and change her life around; to know that you did it is amazing," Good said. "Volunteering makes you feel very good about yourself; that you helped out." □

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“ I just came down and told them I was available and to put me to work. ”



(Left) Candice Russell, senior nursing major at Missouri Southern, fills out a routine questionnaire on a patient at the Community Clinic. (Below) One of the many volunteer nurses organizes medication for the clinic's clients.

AARON DESLATTE
The Chari

Community conscious

Local health clinic strives to provide free care to patrons in need

By AARON DESLATTE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Outside the Joplin Community Clinic, a few loners trickle up to the door. A line begins to form at about 1 p.m. By 2:30, the line reaches to the parking lot. Men and women, young and old, an assorted montage of the tempest all sharing one common characteristic — the need for medical attention.

Some have cuts, others have chronic conditions that require prescription medication.

The clinic doors open at 3:30, and the needy begin to pour in. Newcomers to the clinic are required to fill out paperwork and then are ushered to an interview with a social worker to determine if the patient meets the clinic's requirements.

"We don't take patients who qualify for the city clinics or who have Medicaid or Medicare," said Wanda Adams, director of the clinic. "These are people who have fallen through the cracks."

The regulars fill out similar paperwork but are not required to see a social worker.

They assemble in a waiting room.

A room off to the right serves as a triage where patients' blood pressure is measured and their weight is recorded. They then proceed to examination rooms that are used as a children's church on Sunday's. The routine is typical of a Thursday afternoon.

The building that houses the Community Clinic at 502 Pearl Ave. is provided by the Presbyterian Church. In every sense but one the clinic is no different than any other in town. At this clinic the doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and social workers are all volunteers.

FILLING THE GAP

The Community Clinic was opened in April 1994 to offer primary health care to those who could not afford it. All services provided by the clinic are free of charge to the patient, including their visits with doctors and any lab or X-ray needs identified. Prescription drugs may also be administered if the patient cannot afford medications. The clinic receives patients every Thursday from 3:30 to 8 p.m. The clinic serves anywhere from 50 to 70 patients every Thursday.

Since its inception, the clinic has recorded more than 7,800 visits.

Funding for the clinic is provided by area hospitals, individual donations, and the United Way.

"This is our first year to be a part of the United Way," said Emma Jo Walker, public relations director of the clinic.

When Walker is not assisting in the clinic, she is traveling to area organizations attempting to solicit volunteers and donations to keep the clinic's doors open.

STEPPING UP

Candice Russell, senior nursing major at Missouri Southern, visits with a patient. She takes a brief medical history and then files her report on the patient. She has been a volunteer at the clinic since August 1994.

"I just came down and told them I was available and to put me to work," Russell said.

And that's what they did.

On Mondays, Russell answers the phone and is responsible for enrolling patients into medication treatment programs.

But Russell is currently the only Southern student who is actively involved at the clinic. At one time, a class of Southern nursing students came to volunteer at the clinic.

"This year [volunteering] conflicted with the things they had going," she said.

Russell attributes the decline of Southern student volunteers to a lack of awareness about the clinic.

"They probably just don't know about it," she said. "We have not been solicited by many schools about volunteering," Walker said.

Walker said some Pittsburg State University students are volunteering at the clinic, but few other schools have shown interest in following suit.

Despite being Southern's sole representative at the clinic, Russell is optimistic about the service she is providing.

"It's self-satisfaction and knowing that you've helped someone who needs it," she said. □

